

THE
MONTHLY MAGAZINE,
OR
BRITISH REGISTER.

No. I.—FOR FEBRUARY, 1796.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE WEATHER
IN 1795. MADE AT LONDON.

THE thermometer, of which the results are here given, is a very accurate one of Nairne and Blunts', hung on the outside of a window, up one pair of stairs in a street, in rather an open part of the city, with an exposure a little northwards of west. The hour of observing was nine in the morning, long before the sun reached it.

The averages of the several months were as follows :

January	-	-	-	24
February	-	-	-	34 $\frac{1}{2}$
March	-	-	-	38 $\frac{2}{3}$
April	-	-	-	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
May	-	-	-	55 $\frac{1}{2}$
June	-	-	-	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
July	-	-	-	61 $\frac{1}{2}$
August	-	-	-	64 $\frac{1}{2}$
September	-	-	-	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
October	-	-	-	55
November	-	-	-	41
December	-	-	-	45 $\frac{1}{2}$

Average of the whole year, - 49.

Several remarkable circumstances are afforded by the meteorological observations of this year. The cold of January is well remembered for its unusual severity. An average of eight degrees below the freezing point for the whole month, is certain very rare in any part of England, much more in a great city. The cold of one day (Jan. 25th), was probably unprecedented for a long period, the mercury having sunk to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. In some places in the vicinity of London, it was at or below 0. It was accompanied with thick mist; and on several of

the coldest days in this month, the atmosphere of London was remarkably foggy, and the smoke could not ascend. Snow fell chiefly about the middle or latter part of the month.

Frost, with fair weather, continued for the most part throughout February, though with occasional interruptions. March had much chill and rainy weather. April was pretty fair, and tolerably warm, though its average fell short of that of the whole year, with which it generally coincides. May had some very fine and warm weather, and vegetation pushed forwards with remarkable vigour during the course of it. The average of June very little exceeded that of May, and much of it was wet and ungenial. On the night of June 19th, many new-shorn sheep were killed by the cold. July was, on the whole, pleasant and moderate. August was the hottest month, and generally dry. The highest point of the thermometer observed was seventy-four. A more remarkable September was probably never known. Its heat a little exceeded that of July; and a bright cloudless sky reigned for entire weeks. The weather of October was fine in general, though intermixed with heavy rain and tempestuous winds. Its average was nearly that of May. November and December seemed to have changed places. The former had many bright clear days, with frost. The latter was almost five degrees warmer on the average, and had much close mizzling dark weather with some very violent tempests. The nights of November 5th, and December 28th, were distinguished in this respect.

I shall just add to these observations, that the average of January, 1796, has turned out to be $46\frac{1}{2}$; thus affording the wonderful contrast of the coldest and the warmest Januaries, in two successive years, that are probably to be found in the records of half a century.

THE ENQUIRER. No. I.

QUESTION I. *Ought the Freedom of Enquiry to be restricted?*

GOD FORBID THAT THE SEARCH AFTER TRUTH SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FOR FEAR OF ITS CONSEQUENCES! THE CONSEQUENCES OF TRUTH MAY BE SUBVERSIVE OF SYSTEMS OF SUPERSTITION, BUT THEY NEVER CAN BE INJURIOUS TO THE RIGHTS OR WELL-FOUNDED EXPECTATIONS OF THE HUMAN RACE.

Bishop Watson.

AMONG men who have not so far abandoned common sense in pursuit of the convenient subtleties of sophistry, as altogether to reject the notion of natural rights, there can be no dispute concerning the natural right of every man to enquire after truth. The power of enquiry, with which every human mind is endued, is itself a licence from the Author of Nature for its exercise: each individual comes into the world possessed of this birth-right, and can neither resign it without folly, nor be deprived of it without injustice.

From the first dawn of reason, man is an enquirer. Before the infant has been taught the use of speech, his inquisitive eye asks for information. Curiosity, as he advances in life, still continues to stimulate his search; and every day he goes to the school of experience, to learn new lessons. Experience is always his best instructor. Other teachers may load his memory with words, but experience alone can put him in possession of truths. It is only by contemplating objects in their mutual actions and relations, either by actual observation, or through the report of others, that those general conclusions can be drawn, which constitute knowledge.

With respect to individuals, to doubt of the wisdom of enquiring after truth, is to doubt whether the eye was made for seeing, and the ear for hearing. Every man's capacity of enjoyment, and of usefulness, is proportioned to his know-

ledge. Diminish the number of his ideas, and you so far carry him back towards the state of the inert matter from which he was formed: enlarge his intellectual stores, and you proportionally elevate him above the brutes, and give him an alliance to superior natures. Illumine his paths with the rays of truth; and you guide him to happiness: surround him with the mists of error, and you delude his imagination, mislead his passions, and involve him in endless perplexities.

In society, what are the arts which contribute to the support, the comfort, and the embellishment of life, but ingenious applications of previous experiment and knowledge to some useful purpose? When one community excels another in the utility of its civil institutions, in the benefit of its agricultural and mechanical labours, and in its general prosperity, it is because it better understands and follows the principles of sound policy. When a state falls into disorder and decay, its misfortunes may be ultimately traced up to the ignorance of the people, or the mistakes of their rulers: this holds true, even in those cases, where public calamity is the immediate effect of criminal passions and depraved manners; for men never act wrong, but from some previous misapprehension.

The unalterable connection between truth and good, being thus established by universal experience, it might have been expected, that the founders and leaders of communities would always have considered the advancement of knowledge, as the direct and sure mean of promoting the happiness of society; and that it should never have come into question, Whether the Freedom of Enquiry ought to be restricted? To communicate all possible information on subjects connected with individual or public welfare, and to give the utmost encouragement and assistance to those who are desirous of acquiring knowledge, as well as to those who are ambitious of extending the bounds of science, might seem, incontrovertibly, the wisest policy of statesmen and philosophers. The contrary of this, however, has in all ages been the practice.

The first organized nations, of which history has preserved any records, present us with regular systems of government, upon the erroneous and mischievous plan of keeping the people in ignorance. In India, which modern information points out as the parent of oriental

ental learning, a race of wise men, under the name of Brachmans, appear to have engrossed all the science of their country: and since their time, effectual care has been taken to prevent the diffusion of knowledge, by keeping the Bramins, the depositaries of learning, a distinct cast, and giving them the exclusive right of reading the sacred books, the Vedas and Shasters, and communicating their contents to the people. Among the Egyptians, we find, from the earliest times, a regular system of concealment. The mysteries of philosophy and religion were written in hieroglyphic characters, understood only by the initiated; and these sacerdotal writings were deposited in the inmost recesses of the temples, where they could be examined only by the superior classes of the priesthood. Hence arose the distinction between the exoteric and esoteric doctrine; the former addressed to the vulgar, the latter confined to the priests, and a select number of other persons admitted to the holy mysteries. A similar distinction between secret and public doctrine, was known among the Persians, and in most of the schools of the Grecian philosophers; and the practice of sacred mysteries, begun in the most remote ages, made a distinguished part of the religious ceremonials of Greece and Rome.

If the ancient philosophers, with few exceptions, thus kept their knowledge within the precincts of their own schools, and left the general mass of mankind under the bondage of ignorance and superstition, it may, perhaps, be fairly pleaded as some excuse for their conduct, that their enquiries commonly turned upon subjects too abstruse for vulgar comprehension, and little capable of practical application. When, however, a new sect arose, under a Master who taught simple truth, and who was eminently the instructor and friend of the poor, it might have been expected that the preceptors in this school, would, after the example of their Founder, have said to all the world, "Hear and understand." Yet Christian teachers, though they preached to the people, very early addressed them on subjects, and in terms, to an unlettered multitude as unintelligible, as if their discourses had been in an unknown tongue. In order to check the daring spirit of enquiry, creeds were issued from their councils, which the people were required, on pain of eternal

damnation, to believe. The use of a vernacular version of the Scriptures was afterwards prohibited, and public devotions were in every Christian country performed in the Latin language. These latter absurdities were, it is true, removed at the Reformation; but free enquiry has ever since, in almost all Protestant churches, been discouraged, and, as far as was possible, without the infliction of bodily pains and penalties, forbidden, by making the recital of certain formulaires of belief a part of the ordinary service, and by loading all deviations from the instituted faith, with the odium and hazard of heresy.

The same disposition to discourage and restrain the freedom of enquiry has appeared with respect to subjects of civil policy. The brilliant pages of history in which the people appear as agents in forming and conducting their own system of government, are few. We almost every where find them merely passive machines in the hands of arbitrary power, without any opportunity of judging and choosing for themselves, and, consequently without any inducement to enquire into the general grounds of civil society, or to inform themselves concerning the particular interests of their own community. Over affairs of government, as well as of religion, a veil of mystery has been artfully thrown; and the people have been trained to an implicit acquiescence in the proceedings of their governors, under the notion that secrets of state were far above their comprehension. Even in countries most celebrated for liberty, the ruling powers have always kept a jealous eye upon the progress of opinion, and have commonly adopted the narrow policy of throwing difficulties and discouragements in the way of free enquiry. Few states have had the magnanimity to permit, much less, the wisdom to encourage, the unreserved discussion of all political questions: almost all existing governments have preferred stability to improvement. England, the boasted land of freedom, has had its tests, and its restrictive laws; and even the new Republic of France has, with glaring inconsistency, restrained the freedom of the press.

Has the system of restriction, thus established by universal precedent, had any better origin than the ambition or avarice of men in power? Have they discouraged the free search after truth and the universal dissemination of knowledge, merely through a timid and self-

selfish aversion to innovation? Or are there, in reality, some serious inconveniences and mischiefs to be dreaded from an unlimited latitude of enquiry? Let the point be fairly and candidly examined.

— “ Remove all restriction and discouragement from enquiry;—set the door of the school of knowledge wide open, and invite people of all classes to enter;—consider what would be the consequence, with respect to the lower orders of society. They would be diverted from those necessary labours, on which their own support and the wealth of the nation depends: they would become conceited possessors of that ‘ little knowledge,’ which ‘ is a dangerous thing’: they would learn to look upon the necessary subordination of society as a grievous evil; would become restless under the unavoidable burdens and restraints of civilized life; and, in their violent efforts to throw them off, would involve their country in confusion, and introduce all the horrors of anarchy.”—

These phantoms, conjured up by the Alarmist’s wand, it will require no incantation to disperse. The poor man, though, doubtless, born to labour—which, by the way, ought in one form or another to be the lot of every man—is also born to enjoy his existence as a rational being, and ought not to be denied leisure and opportunity to partake of the pleasures of intellect. He would not be the less able, or inclined, to fill up his proper station in society, for knowing his rights and his duties. It is ignorance, not knowledge, which makes men discontented and troublesome. The abject spirit which is produced by religious and political superstition, may be convenient in a state of oppression; but a government which pursues, by direct means, the honest end of the public good, will, unquestionably, conduct its operation with greater facility and effect over an enlightened, than an ignorant people. Nothing would so certainly prevent the miseries attending sudden political concussions, as the general diffusion of knowledge. The necessity of violent commotions would be superceded by the gradual and peaceable, but sure, progress of reformation: for, “ when the most considerable part of a nation, either for number or influence, become convinced of the flagrant absurdity of any of its institutions, the whole will soon be prepared, tranquilly, and by a

sort of common consent, to supersede them*.”

The question cannot be fully determined by an appeal to fact: for the experiments have been hitherto almost all on the side of restriction; scarcely any country having adopted the liberal policy of allowing free enquiry and discussion without any exceptions or embarrassments. But it has always been found, as was to be expected, that the more the freedom of research has in any country been encouraged, the greater progress has that country made in civilization and prosperity. On the contrary wherever the ruling powers have thought it expedient to clog the human understanding in its natural endeavour to free itself from error and prejudice, the minds of the people have become enfeebled by indolence, enslaved by superstition, and corrupted by vice; till long and sad experience of the mischiefs arising from blind credulity and tame submission, has roused to action their dormant faculties, and produced energetic exertions, beneficial, doubtless, in their consequences, but in their first efforts scarcely less tremendous, than the unexpected explosion of a long silent, and almost forgotten volcano.

Instead of thus giving a preternatural vigour to the despairing struggles of the free-born mind, by forcibly compressing its natural elasticity, had the leaders of the world encouraged and aided the progress of knowledge;—had the Grecian philosophers, instead of making the academy, the porch, and the Lyceum, resound with the clamour of their barren disputes, imitated the wise Socrates in bringing philosophy into the common walks of life;—had the early fathers of the Christian Church, instead of perplexing the world with abstruse questions and incomprehensible mysteries, employed themselves in teaching the simple principles and rules of Christian morals; had the most subtle, profound, irrefragable, angelic, and seraphic doctors of the scholastic age, instead of amusing themselves with raising phantoms of abstraction, like elves and fairies, in the field of truth, studied nature, and communicated useful information to the common people:—in fine, on the revival of letters, had our public schools been formed with less attention to the parade of learning, and the ostentation

* Godwin.

of science, than to the general dissemination of knowledge, and advancement of civilization;—it is impossible to say to what degree of perfection human nature might not by this time have attained.

It is certain, and cannot too often be repeated, that knowledge is power. Why then should men be restricted in those improvements of intellect which, by enlarging their sphere of action, cannot fail to increase their capacity of happiness? Can they be too wise, or too happy? If not, let the excursions of invention be unconfined, let the researches of reason be uncontrolled. This is, undoubtedly, the policy which philanthropy teaches; and a narrower policy can only be dictated by bigotry or selfishness. If the perfectibility of human nature be not the dream of benevolence—the philosopher's stone of the present day;—if it at least be true, that man has not yet reached his appointed summit of knowledge and happiness, let not his progress be retarded by coercive restrictions on the freedom of enquiry, of speech, and of writing: let all good men, who love their country and their species, unite to solicit the removal of every obstruction to the discovery and the application of truth, and the institution of one universal law for the protection and encouragement of enquirers; that, henceforward, Opinion, like the air, may become “a chartered libertine.”

ON MR. MAURICE'S INDIAN ANTIQUITIES.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

Feb. 10, 1796.

A VAILING myself of the new field of liberal discussion which you have opened, I submit to the consideration of the public, a single observation on a late important publication, Mr. Maurice's *Indian Antiquities*.

I leave it to professional critics to estimate this writer's literary merit, and to apportion to him the due share of praise for the industry with which he has, from various sources, collected a large mass of curious and useful information. My sole object is to put enquirers after truth upon their guard against a precipitate adoption of the conclusions which Mr. Maurice deduces from his facts. Through the whole work, the author appears rather in the capacity of a theological polemic, than an historian. A large, and, many will think,

a disproportionate share of attention is bestowed upon the doctrine of the Trinity; and the point chiefly laboured is, that this doctrine is conveyed by ancient tradition from the Hebrews to the Indians; the awful mystery having been originally “revealed to Adam in the sacred bowers of Eden,” where he “freely conversed with the holy personages that compose the Trinity,” and “saw the radiance of the divine Triad.” “I must take permission,” says Mr. M. “to assert my solemn belief, founded upon long and elaborate investigation, that the Indian, as well as all other triads of Deity, so universally adopted through the Asiatic world, and under every denomination, whether they consist of persons, principles, or attributes deified, are all corruptions of the Christian doctrine of the Trinity (1).”

After this solemn asseveration, no one will doubt the sincerity of Mr. Maurice's belief: but his belief will produce no sympathetic assent in minds capable of enquiry, till a clearer connection is established between his faith and his “long and elaborate investigations,” than appears in these volumes. The existence of three principal objects of worship, under the names of Brahma, Veeshnou, and Seeva is ascertained. That these three divinities are sometimes worshipped in union, under the name of Trimurti, appears probable; and that their union is symbolically designated by the monstrous image found in the cavern-pagoda of Elephanta, with three heads, or, as some say, for travellers are not agreed upon the fact, with four, is a plausible supposition: but, to say that this magnificent piece of sculpture decidedly establishes the *solemn fact*, that from the remotest ages the Indian nations have adored a tri-une deity, and that the cavern was a stupendous temple to this trinity (2), is to assert somewhat too confidently. A statue with three or four heads, without any inscription or record, can, at best, only furnish matter for uncertain conjecture.

Through the whole of Mr. Maurice's work, the reader will find no proof that the primitive Indian faith, concerning the divine nature, was trinitarian. Large extracts, given by various authors, from the ancient sacred books of India, show that the early philosophers of that country were believers in the unity of the Divine Nature. It is the decided opinion of

(1) p. 427. (2) p. 772.

Mr. Dow, Mr. Sonnerat, Mr. Crawfurd, and many others, who have received their information from the most authentic sources, that the unity of God is the fundamental tenet of the Hindoo religion, and that Brahma, Veeshnou, and Seeva, the three principal forms under which the Deity is worshipped, are only emblems, or personifications of his attributes, or modes of operation, under the different characters of Creator, Preserver, and Destroyer, in which he exercises the powers of producing, continuing, and dissolving the forms of nature.

The assertion, that no other rational account can be given of the general prevalence of this doctrine in the East, but that it derived its origin from the ancestors of the human race and the Hebrew Patriarchs, will obtain little credit with those who do not read this doctrine in the Hebrew scriptures. Till clearer proof is given than is to be found in the "Indian Antiquities," that Noah was the Fohi of China, and the Menu of India, and that the revelation, originally given in Eden, was transmitted through Asia by his son Ham, the divine origin of the doctrine of the Trinity will not be confirmed from the history of Indian philosophy.

The personification of the divine attributes and characters which, in India and other eastern nations, gave birth to a long train of silly fables and gross superstitions, have been thought by many to have been the origin of the Platonic Trinity, and, through Plato's writings, to have occasioned the introduction of this notion into the Christian church (1). But it is not my intention to load your Miscellany with the leaden weight of the trinitarian controversy. I only mean to enter a caveat against the imposing dogmatism of a writer, whose easy faith finds the Hebrew *jod* (2) in the knot of the Indian *zennar*, or *triple cord* which girds the loins of the Bramins, and admits that Confucius, by divine inspiration, predicted the advent of the Messiah in Palestine; and whose forward zeal, or fastidious delicacy, has induced him to refer the worship of the Lingam in India to a Hebrew origin (3). "Considered," says Mr. M. "in a theological point of view, and writing in a country professing Christianity, I trust I have

referred so indecent a devotion to its *true* source, the turpitude of Ham, whose Cuthine progeny introduced it into Hindostan. The brevity I have observed on the subject, has proceeded from choice, and not from ignorance of the extensive and deeply physical nature of the subject (4)." — In a country not Christian, and in a point of view not theological, it should seem, then, that the author could have found another *true* source of this superstition.—Am I wrong in hinting to young people, that Mr. Maurice's, " Indian Antiquities" should be read with caution?

CATUS.

To the Editors of the Monthly Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

THE following solution of a literary difficulty, from a friend to your Undertaking, is at your service for insertion, if sufficiently important, in your intended Miscellany.

Hackney, Feb. 3, 1796.

G. W.

A LATIN ode, entitled "Votum," and beginning with the line

"Qualis per nemorum nigra silentia,"

is found in the Collection of Dr. Jortin's Latin Poems, published by himself, in his life-time, and among the tracts published by his son since his death: and the same ode occurs also in page 314 of Vincent Bourne's Poems, in quarto; of which Mr. Jortin, in the edition of his father's tracts just mentioned, expresses his surprize, with an appearance of resentment. He, as every other to whom I have mentioned the circumstance, seems not to have been apprized of the source of this apparent plagiarism, which has contributed to make doubtful the proper author of the poem in question. The following suggestions will, I think, furnish a satisfactory solution of the difficulty:

The posthumous edition of Vincent Bourne's poems, from the list of subscribers, and from a letter inserted at page 321 of that volume, may be presumed to have been published for the benefit of his family; and with this purpose, a wish to enlarge the volume as much as possible was probably connected. Now, in the first publication of Bourne's Poems, of which I have a copy, in 1721, under the title of "Carminalia Comititalia Cantabrigiensia," the

(1) See Bruckeri. Philos. Hist. Crit. lib. vi. c. 1, 2. or Dr. Enfield's Abridgement, vol. ii. p. 271. (2) p. 739. (3) p. 271.

(4) Pref. p. 109.

ode

ode under contemplation is inserted, with the trivial variations of a few words from the latter copies, and was, I have no doubt, furnished to Bourne by Dr. Jortin, his contemporary at Cambridge : for the title page, in addition to the former words, has only “*Edidit V. B. Coll. Trin. Socius.*” Now the publishers of Bourne’s posthumous edition, whether from a real or dissembled ignorance of the true author, took advantage of this circumstance to increase their collection ; for the poem, I believe, never appeared as his own in any edition of his Poems by Bourne himself.

For the Monthly Magazine.

HINTS ON THE POPULATION OF
GREAT-BRITAIN, AND ON THE
MANNER IN WHICH IT IS AF-
FECTED BY THE NATIONAL
DEBT.

THE present state of this country cannot possibly be regarded by an impartial and attentive observer, without much grief and apprehension. The continued drains of men and treasure, produced by repeated wars for the last century, must have weakened the most populous and wealthy nation that had ever existed. But when the confined limits of this country are considered, and particularly the large portion of it which has never been cultivated, it will be more a matter of astonishment that it should have been capable of exerting itself so powerfully, than that its strength should have been impaired by those exertions.

There are, however, some persons so fully persuaded of its inexhaustible resources, that the accumulation of its debts is considered only as a proof of its growing wealth, and the present scarcity of subsistence as arising principally from its increased population. Hence we see our legislators gravely proposing the inclosure of the waste lands as the infallible means of preventing any future scarcity, without ever reflecting that the multiplied taxes which every new war creates, continually render it more difficult for the poor man to maintain his family by his labour ; and therefore that, under these circumstances, he must be starved long before the soil which is offered him can be so far cultivated as to afford any subsistence to himself and family. Had a twentieth part of the money which has been squandered in either of those

wars which have desolated this country since the Revolution, been allotted to the poor either as a loan, or a reward, to assist and encourage them in this work, the whole kingdom by this time might have been cultivated like a garden, and every part of it been made to overflow with inhabitants : but, instead of this, what has been the case ? By the continual impositions of new taxes, the burdens and oppressions of the poor have been increased, the means of subsistence have become more difficult, and a gradual depopulation has succeeded, much more destructive in its consequences than any temporary waste of human life, which is the *immediate effect* of war.

If we were to reason from the present increased size of some of our principal manufacturing towns, we might be led to conclude, that at no period have the inhabitants of this kingdom multiplied so fast. But a little attention will convince us, that this accession to the towns is derived from the neighbouring country places, and that the exchange of a healthier abode for another less healthy, tends rather to diminish than to improve our population. The manufactories of Lancashire, Warwickshire, and Yorkshire, may probably have increased the number of inhabitants in some parts of those counties : but if the whole kingdom be taken into the account, it will be impossible to deny the very alarming progress of depopulation among us. In the year 1690, according to the report of the surveyors of the house and window duties, the whole number of houses in England and Wales was, 1,319,215 ; in the year 1759, according to the report of the same officers, their number was reduced to 986,482 ; in the year 1761, their number was still farther reduced to 980,692 ; and in the year 1777, their number did not exceed 952,734 : in less than 90 years, therefore, the number of houses had decreased above 360,000. If the carnage of the American and the present wars be considered, it will appear highly probable, that, since the year 1777, the number of houses has continued to diminish, and that they may now be fairly stated at 400,000 fewer than they were in the year 1690 ; so that, allowing five persons to each house, it will follow, that the present number of inhabitants in England and Wales is two millions, or almost one third, less than it was at the time of the revolution.

revolution. But the most alarming circumstances attending this depopulation, is its having taken place principally among the poorer class, which has always been justly reckoned the strength of a country.

In the year 1689, the cottages amounted to 554,631. In the year 1777, their number was reduced to 251,261; so that between those two periods the diminution exceeded 300,000, and, consequently, the number of their inhabitants was lessened above one million and a half. Various causes have been assigned for this dreadful evil; but there cannot be a doubt that the principal cause is the *national debt*; for the immense sums which it is necessary to raise every year by taxation, in order to pay the interest of this debt, inevitably enhance the price of every article of life; and as the wages of the poor are by no means raised in proportion to the increase of their expenditure, it becomes impossible for them to maintain a family; the younger part are, consequently, either deterred from marriage, or induced to emigrate into a cheaper country; and hence a depopulation succeeds, which, if the national debt continues to increase as it has lately done, must reduce this country into a desert.

At the beginning of this century (when the number of inhabitants, as appears above, was two millions greater than it is at present) the national debt amounted only to 17 millions, and the taxes which were raised to pay the interest of this debt amounted to about one million. At this present time, the national debt exceeds 360 millions, and the taxes necessary to pay the interest must produce at least 13 millions. When the ordinary expences of government, even on a peace-establishment, are added to this sum, it will appear that taxes to the amount of 22 millions, must be yearly raised from the people of Great Britain, supposing that the present war, which has with justice been represented as the most expensive that has ever afflicted this country, were immediately terminated. It has been already observed, that the number of houses in England and Wales, in the year 1777, was 952,734. Let them be stated even at a million, and the number of inhabitants, allowing five to a house (which is an ample allowance) will be five millions. The number of inhabitants in Scotland has been generally supposed not to exceed one million and a quarter: let them be taken

at one million and a half, and then the whole number of inhabitants in Great Britain will be six millions and a half, and the number of families (on the above supposition of five to a house) will be 1,300,000: from whence it follows, that each family in the kingdom must, on an average, pay about 17*l. per ann.* in direct taxation. If to this be added the increased price that is paid upon every article on account of the tax, over and above the sum which it is charged by government, I think that the whole amount of the taxes paid by each family may be very fairly stated at 25*l. per ann.* Is it any wonder, then, that, in such a country, the number of its inhabitants should be lessened? With a population continually diminishing, and with a debt continually increasing, it is obvious that no country can long support itself; and therefore it requires no extraordinary sagacity to foresee the consequence of obstinately persisting in that system of profusion which has, for some years past, distinguished the administration of this country.

London, Feb. 2, 1796.

M. N.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

AS the object of your new Magazine is the promotion of innocent amusement and useful information, I beg leave to communicate to you a few cursory hints respecting a modern institution, which, though but young in its establishment, and at present but narrow in its finances, promises to acquire increasing strength, and, it is hoped, will at length become permanent in its duration and extensive in its influence. I allude to the Literary Fund.

It has fallen in my way to obtain a pretty accurate knowledge of the nature of this institution, and of the application of its bounties; but I shall lay before you such particulars only as may convey hints somewhat interesting to your readers.

The society originated in the misfortunes of Floyer Sydenham, the worthy and industrious translator of Plato, who died in consequence of an arrest for a debt to a victualler, who used to furnish his frugal table.

This event gave birth to the benevolent exertions of Mr. Scott and Mr. Williams, the latter of whom produced a plan of relief to distressed authors:

this was submitted to the consideration of a club, consisting, for the most part, of men of letters, who met as well for the purposes of literature and benevolence, as of conviviality : the other gentlemen who more particularly exerted themselves on this occasion, were the elder Captain Morris, Mr. Deputy Nichols, and Dr. Dale.

From the list of cases brought before the last committee, it appears, that forty-one literary persons, some of very great character, have obtained timely relief*.

The gentlemen who compose the committee, occasionally dine together ; and there is, besides, an annual meeting of all the subscribers, of such, at least, as choose to attend : but no dinners, or any occasional recreations, are paid for out of the funds of the institution ; nor are any salaries given to officers.

The following extract is made from the last report of the committee :

Balance in hand, April 21,	<i>L. s. d.</i>
1794 - - -	88 19 3
Subscriptions received from	
April 21, 1794, to April	
21, 1795 - - -	110 5 0
	—
	199 4 3
Sums paid by order of the	
committee, for relief, with-	
in the same time -	86 17 0
	—
Balance, April 21, 1795,	112 7 3

The subscribers as yet do not amount to one hundred and fifty ; but in the small list, appear the names of many persons eminent for their literary characters, and beloved for their benevolent dispositions.

This short account is not sent you, sir, either as curious or any way striking, but in order to forward the design of the Literary Fund, and to interest your readers in its success.

Such persons as, desirous of becoming subscribers, wish to be better acquainted with the nature and present state of the institution, are referred to Mr. E. Brooke, bookseller, Bell-yard, Temple-

* This list of cases, though lately printed for the first time, for the use of subscribers, has never been published at large ; nor from the list can the name of any individual be traced out, though sufficient information is conveyed, to show, that the funds of the society are properly applied.

bar ; with whom is lodged the account of the Literary Fund, together with Poems on the Anniversary, &c. just printed by order of the Society.

I am, in behalf of the new Magazine,
Your sincere well-wisher,
A Friend to the Literary Fund.

REMARKS ON MR. WAKEFIELD'S EDITION OF POPE'S WORKS.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I HAVE met with few books that offer a more agreeable treat to the lover of poetry, than Mr. Wakefield's Edition of part of Pope's Works, and his Observations on the whole. The refined taste with which the critic enters into all the beauties of the poet, and the elegant copiousness of his illustrative and comparative quotations, afford a very pleasing exercise to a mind practised in similar studies. It is impossible, however, that, in a long series of particular observations, many things should not occur, which strike different persons differently ; and no reader, probably, who was capable of judging for himself at all, ever perfectly acquiesced in the remarks of any critical writer. In going over the first of Mr. W.'s volumes, I noted various passages, in which my opinion somewhat varied from his ; and it may, perhaps, afford no unentertaining matter for speculation to your readers, if I lay some of these before them. I shall just premise, that had I not a sincere respect for Mr. Wakefield's taste and learning, with a general approbation of what he has done in this very work, I should not have troubled you or myself with these remarks.

In Pastoral 1st, the line

And swelling clusters bend the curling vines,
was first written,

And clusters *lurk* beneath the curling vines.

Mr. W. approves the alteration, and supposes Pope to have been displeased with the vulgarity of the word *lurk*. I think the word sufficiently poetical, and the image beautiful ; but suppose his objection was, that *lurking* clusters could not be well expressed in carving. Perhaps, too, he thought the sounds *lurk* and *curl* too near each other.

In the same Pastoral, at

— The vales shall every note rebound,

Mr. W. observes, that “*woods, or elevated grounds,* are better calculated than *vales*, to reverberate the pulses of the air.” On the contrary, I should think, that narrow vales, with rocky sides, are the most appropriate seats of echoes. Thus, Virgil forbids the placing of bee-hives

—*ubi concava pulsu
Saxa sonant, vocisque offensa resultat imago.*

In the Messiah, under the line
He from thick films shall purge the visual ray,

Mr. W. remarks, that applying *films* to the medium of vision, the *ray*, and not to the instrument of it, the *eye*, is a poetical substitution, and is one source of the elevation of poetry above prose. I confess, I have no taste for the substitution of nonsense to sense; and I believe that in the present case, the true cause of the error in language was erroneous conception. In the old philosophy, vision was supposed to be occasioned by something going out of the eye, and not coming into it. *Ibid.*

The tender lambs he raises in his arms,
Feeds from his hand, and in his bosom warms.

Mr. W. thinks that the poet has been here betrayed into an impropriety, for want of knowing that the *bosom*, in classic use, means the spacious flow of the eastern garments. But surely the image of warming a lamb in the shepherd’s bosom is strictly proper, whether classic or not. *Ib.*

And heap’d with products of Sabean *sp’ings*.

The reason why incense and perfumes are made the product of Sabean *springs*, seems to be, because in the arid soil of Arabia, there is no vegetation without water.

In *Windfor Forest*, Mr. W. objects to the expression *painted wings*, applied to the pheasant, as not discriminate; but I conceive that it is a very just one, meaning marked with regular spots, as if painted;—*pencilled*.

Ib. Mr. W. much admires the ingenuity of the poet’s application of the offices and attributes of Diana to queen Anne: but I confess, I do not perceive in what peculiar sense the queen was *goddes of the wocas*, and *luminary of night*, though she might be *empress of the main*. *Ibid.*

Not Neptune’s self from all *her streams* receives,
A wealthier tribute than to thine he gives.

There is undoubtedly an inaccuracy in the word *ber*, which has no immediate reference; but it probably was in the poet’s mind referred to *Britain*, understood. Mr. W.’s emendation of “*earth’s streams*,” is surely very harsh.

In the ode for St. Cecilia’s Day, Mr. W. thus points the following lines:

By the streams that ever flow,
By the fragrant winds that blow,
O’er the Elysian flow’rs;

making both the *streams* and the *winds* refer to the *flowers*; the alteration is ingenious, but, I think, not probable; as the poet would not readily conceive of water flowing, and gales blowing, over the same flowers.

On the line in the chorus to Brutus,
See Arts her savage sons control,

Mr. W. has a just remark on the ambiguity in our language, proceeding from the want of inflexions of nouns to distinguish their government by verbs; either *arts* or *sons* being here capable of becoming the nominative or accusative to *control*; and he has a similar remark in the *Essay on Criticism*, on

—*La Mancha’s knight, they say,
A certain bard encount’ring on the way.*

But as in both these instances the true construction is according to the natural order of the words, they, perhaps, ought to be exempted from the charge of ambiguity.

Thus when we view some well-proportion’d dome,
The world’s just wonder, and even thine, O Rome! &c.

Mr. W. justly complains of obscurity of application in this passage of the *Essay on Criticism*; but I imagine the building intended is St. Peter’s, of which it has more than once been said, that from its exact proportion, its vast dimensions do not at first strike the eye as extraordinary.

Ibid. On the hyperbole of Camilla’s “*flying o’er the unbending corn*,” Mr. W. remarks, that Virgil, in the original passage, has lessened the extravagance, by only saying that “*she might* have so flown, without injuring the blades of corn, if she had chosen it.” I confess this appears to me a very small diminution of the hyperbole. *Ibid.*

For fools admire, but men of sense approve.

Mr.

Mr. W. seems to justify this cold sentence, by observing, that the ancient philosophers made that equilibrium of character, which prevents the emotion of admiration, a test of perfect wisdom. But surely a poet should not write for such philosophers! Ibid.

Some ne'er advance a judgment of their own,
But catch the spreading notion of the town.

Mr. W. ingeniously supposes that the word *couch* is here used in the sense of catching an epidemic disease. I demur, however, to this explanation, and rather incline to think the meaning like that of the author's, " *couch* the manners living as they rise." Ibid.

What is that wit which most our cares employ?
The owner's wife that other men enjoy.

Mr. W. speaks harshly of the slovenly superfluity of words in the latter line, and asks, to whom can a wife belong, but to the *owner*? I can, however, discern no superfluity. " Wit is to its owner, as a wife, &c." Ibid.

Horace still charms with graceful negligence,
And without method talks us into sense.

"A most absurd and romantic idea!" (exclaims Mr. W.) as if a man of genius wrote without a regular series of ideas!" I am aware, that the want of method in Horace and other ancients, is a topic on which true classical men are very sore; but such an exclamation is only begging the question. One who denied method to Horace, would only say, "then he is not your man of genius."

Sol through white curtains shot a tim'rous ray,
And op'd those eyes that must eclipse the day.
Rape of the Lock.

Mr. W. elegantly explains *timorous*, as " pale and feeble from the medium through which it past." But query, whether it may not be *timorous*, as if afraid to look in. The second line seems to make this probable. Ibid.

Each silver vase in mystic order laid.

Mr. W. objects to the epithet *silver*, as not appropriate to the mock solemnity of the passage. I suppose, however, it is used literally, for the materials of which the dressing boxes were made, as much as the tortoise and ivory for the combs.

Ibid. Mr. W. thinks the description of the game at ombre exceptionable, as being unconnected with the machinery, and contributing nothing to the catastro-

phe. But is not the pleasure arising from variety, a sufficient purpose to justify digression? What would poetry be without it? Ibid.

While Hampton's echoes, *wretched maid!* replied.

This appears to Mr. W. a ridicule of the *echo* writings once in vogue. But the felicity or humour of these consisted in a rhyming word, which was a reply or a contrast to that in the preceding line of the couplet. In the present case, Pope clearly seems to have parodied Virgil's " Ah miseram Eurydicens!"

There the first roses of the year shall blow.
Elegy on an Unfortunate Lady.

Mr. W. proposes, as an emendation, *spring* for *year*. Better as it is; for roses do not blow till summer.

I own I differ much from Mr. W. in his favourable opinion of the *Epilogue to Jane Shore*, which appears to me a silly piece of flippancy; countenanced, indeed, by the taste of that time for pert epilogues.

In *Eloisa to Abelard*, the line

Plants of thy hand, and children of thy pray'r,

is considered by Mr. W. as containing a purely *oriental* expression; but surely the allusion in "children of thy pray'r," simply refers to the spiritual paternity of Abelard.

The striking address towards the conclusion of this admirable poem, beginning, " Come, sister, come," has been imitated with wonderful effect by Rousseau, in his *Julie*. " J'entends murmurer une voix plaintive—Claire, ô ma Claire, où es-tu? que fais-tu loin de ton amie?—son cercueil ne la contient pas toute entière."

The sober follies of the wise and great.
Epistle to the Earl of Oxford.

Mr. W. thinks there is an incongruity here, and that he ought to have written *proud* instead of *wise*; but *wise* here only means so in appearance, or *grave*, and there is an evident opposition intended between *follies* and *wise*.

Just when she learns to roll a melting eye,
And hear a spark, yet think no danger nigh.

Epistle vi.

This seems to Mr. W. ungrammatical, and he proposes to read *bears* and *thinks*. But why not, " learns" to " hear," and to " think?"

[Feb.

The song, "Say, Phœbe, why is gentle love," is given with the variation of Myra for Phœbe, and some other differences, as lord Lyttleton's, in *Dodgley's Collection*, Vol. II.

The thought, in the epitaph on Simon Harcourt,

Or gave his father grief but when he died,
comes nearer to the following in the Spectator, than to the lines quoted by Mr. W. from Cowley :—"never till that hour, since his birth, had been an occasion of a moment's sorrow to her." No. 133.

Mr. W. thinks, that in the epitaph on Kneller, the line -

Whose art was nature, and whose pictures
thought,

should have been (had the rhyme permitted) "whose pictures life;" but surely the praise is higher as it stands, for the sense is, "whose pictures represent mind."

Perhaps, Mr. Editor, I may send you more remarks hereafter, if these prove acceptable to your readers. Meantime,

I remain, Your's, &c.
MUSIS AMICUS.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,
MEETING with your Prospectus of a new Miscellany, to be entitled *The Monthly Magazine*, and approving the liberal plan upon which it is proposed to be conducted, as a convenient and easy method of conveying useful and pleasing information, I beg leave to address you concerning one of the objects of your intended plan, that of *Agricultural Improvement*. Having spent the greatest part of my life (now pretty far advanced) in the practical study of agriculture, and the breeding of farming stock, I am fully persuaded that the LANDS in this kingdom are capable of being made much more productive than they at present are, as I believe every one who has turned his thoughts to that subject must be very satisfactorily convinced. It, then, becomes a matter of very important enquiry, what are the causes that have, and do at present retard those improvements, and the most probable means of obviating and removing those obstructions, and that may best promote any future improvements? It is also well known to most graziers, that some sorts of cattle, of the same species, will thrive faster, and produce more provisions for the market, than others, from

any given quantity of herbage. It is, therefore, a matter very well worth enquiry, and of being ascertained, which are those sorts, and what are the criterions by which they may be known? It certainly would be rendering an essential service to this country, if any of your readers, whose attention has been directed to those objects, would give their sentiments thereupon to the public, as it may lead to a discussion of the subject, by which some useful hints may be struck out, that may be of essential future public advantage.

In hopes of seeing something of this kind effected in your Magazine, I remain, with the sincerest wishes for your success in your intended Publication,

Sir, your humble servant,
Leicestershire,
Feb. 1796.

L. F. B.

For the Monthly Magazine.

[The EDITOR is happy to present to the readers of the MONTHLY MAGAZINE the following very valuable historical communication; which he hopes will be a prelude to other papers, by the same learned and well informed writer.]

OF JEWS IN ENGLAND, No. I.

NEHEMIAH ranks among the great characters of ancient history. He forsook a place of influence at the most splendid court of Asia, to encounter every hardship, for the beneficent purpose of bestowing independence upon a horde of poor, ignorant, and wretched slaves, and of educating them by religious and civil culture, into a moral, brave, and industrious nation—and he succeeded. Before Nehemiah, the Jews were addicted to idolatry, and untaught as to an hereafter. By the wise selection of traditions and laws which his institutions impressed upon the people, they became zealous monotheists, austere moral, and brave defenders of their independence, without acquiring the spirit of conquest. Yet they neglected not the arts of peace. They covered the rocks of Galilee with olive trees; and pursued commerce with so great success, that to Alexander it already appeared an object to court the settlement of Jewish colonies in his sea-ports. They multiplied rapidly in all places. In the time of Tiberius, much of the commerce of the Mediterranean was in their hands. They had synagogues every where, which they tolerantly suffered to become schools of Christianity. Even un-

der

der Vespasian, Jerusalem was still maintaining, against Roman tyranny, a noble but unequal struggle for its religious and civil liberties.

How soon any Jews settled in Great Britain, is unknown: but from the spread of Christianity among the Britons, previously to its establishment under Constantine, it is reasonable to infer, that there had long been some synagogues * here to serve as *stubs of propagation* for the new faith. The inroads of the Saxons and Danes obliterated much of the imperfect conversion of the native inhabitants. At this period, the Jews, with singular liberality, patronized the civilization of these barbarous heathens, by endowing Christian monasteries. In a charter of Witglaff, king of Mercia, made to the monks of Croyland, we find confirmed to them not only such lands as had at any time been given to the monastery by the kings of Mercia, but also all their possessions whatever, whether they were originally bestowed on them by Christians or Jews. *Omnes terras & tenementa, possessiones & eorum peculia, quae reges Meriорum & eorum proceres, vel alii fideles Christiani, vel Iудеи, deditis monachis dederunt.* Nearly a hundred years earlier, the Jews must have been numerous in England, since the 146th paragraph of the Canonical Excerpts, published by Egbert, Archbishop of York, in 740, forbids any Christians to be present at the Jewish feasts.

Indeed, during the feudal ages, the Jews seem to have been the most opulent, polished, and literate portion of the laity. They were the only bankers, or as the vulgar termed them *usurers*, of the time. They conducted what there existed of foreign trade, and often visited the civilized south of Europe. They wrought most of the gold and silver ornaments for altars. William Rufus, who

(as Tovey says) "was no better than an infidel," not only permitted, but encouraged them to enter into solemn contests with his bishops concerning the true faith; swearing, by the face of Saint Luke, that, if the Jews got the better in the dispute, he would turn Jew himself. Accordingly, in his time, there was a public meeting of the chief leaders on both sides in London, when the Jews opposed the Christians with so much vigour, that the bishops and clergy were not without some solicitude how the disputation might terminate. No other class of men was at that period enlightened enough to cope with the priesthood. Some young Jews were so imprudent as even to value themselves upon their infidelity. The son of one Mosley, of Wallingford, to laugh at the votaries of Saint Frideswide, would sometimes crook his fingers, and then pretend he had miraculously made them straight again: at other times he would halt like a cripple, and then in a few minutes skip and dance about, bidding the crowd observe how suddenly he had cured himself.

Henry II, in the 24th year of his reign, granted a burial-place to the Jews on the outside of every city where they dwelt: proof they were numerous and respected. In this reign, one Joshua, a Jew, furnished the rebels in Ireland with great sums of money. And one Sancto, of Bury Saint Edmund's, took in pledge certain vessels appointed for the service of the altar. Others were grown so presumptuous as even to scoff at, and ridicule, the highest dignitaries of the church. We may in part owe to them the spirit which dictated the Constitutions of Clarendon. In 1188, the parliament at Northampton proposed to assess the Jews at sixty thousand pounds, and the Christians at seventy thousand, toward a projected war. The Jews must have been very rich, or the parliament very tyrannical.

Under Richard I, the prejudices of the populace were let loose against the Jews. A crusade had been resolved on. The declamations of the clergy in favour of this holy war stirred up the intolerance of the vulgar. In London, a riotous populace broke open and plundered the houses of the Jews. Three persons only were punished, who by mistake had injured the houses of Christians. In six months, the flame became general. The most formidable explosion happened at Stamford-fair, which had

* From the preface to Leland's Collections, it appears, that Mr. Richard Waller believed the Jews to have been settled in England during the supremacy of the Romans, the ground of his conjecture being this: "Above seventy years ago, there was found at London, in Mark-lane, a Roman brick, having on one side a bas-relief, representing Sampson driving the foxes into a field of corn, which brick was the key of an arched vault, discovered at the same time full of burnt corn; and from the elegance of the sculpture, and other criteria, it was inferred, that this brick could be no work of latter ages, and if of Romans, of Roman Jews, from its subject."

had drawn together great multitudes of people, and among them whole troops of *roaming saints*, who were preparing to go with the king to the Holy Land. These zealous men, disdaining that the enemies of Christ should abound in wealth, while they, who were his great friends, were obliged to strip their wives and children of common necessities, to supply the charges of the voyage, persuaded themselves, that God would be highly honoured, if they should first cut the throats of the Jews, and then seize upon their money:—So ready are men to believe what makes for their worldly advantage. Accordingly, they flew upon them, and, finding very little resistance from an oppressed and spiritless enemy, quickly made themselves masters both of their persons and fortunes: the former of which they treated with all kinds of barbarity. Some few of them, indeed, were so fortunate as to get shelter in the castle; whither, as they fled without their riches, the source of all their misery, they were not earnestly pursued. And as these devout pilgrims pretended to do all this for the advancement of God's glory, to show they were in earnest, they took shipping as fast as they could, and fled away for Jerusalem, not so much as one of them being detained by the magistrates, or any farther enquiry made by the king, into such a sanctified piece of villainy. Internal trade must at that time have been chiefly conducted by the Jews, since they were assembled in such numbers at an inland fair. They had probably, too bestowed, e.e this, upon commerce, the important improvement of inventing *bills of exchange*, as mention seems to be made of them, by the name of *Starra* (from the Hebrew *Shetar*) in certain Latin documents of this æra. The Jews were still admitted to the liberal professions, as the cruel edict of Richard I, for registering their property, orders that their "contracts should be made in the presence of two assigned lawyers who were Jews, two who were Christians, and two public Notaries." This king appointed *Justicars of the Jews*, whose office it was to collect and pay into the exchequer the taxes assessed upon that unfortunate sect. Benedict de Talemunt, and Joseph Aaron, were the two first of these Justicars.

The intolerant policy of Richard I, occasioned the emigration of all the wealthier Jews, and a consequent defalcation of the revenue; which was so

sensibly felt, that John, in 1199, used several arts to draw them back into his kingdom; not only confirming their ancient, but offering new privileges, and particularly that of naming a high-priest by the title of *Presbyter Judæorum*. Many Jews upon this returned, and were afterwards more cruelly plundered than ever. Our Great Charter sanctions an injustice to the Jews, by enacting, that, "If any persons have borrowed money of the Jews, more or less, and die before they have paid the debt, the debt shall not grow whilst the heir is under age," &c. Henry III liberated such Jews as were in prison, ordered them to be protected against the insults of Jerusalem pilgrims, and to wear upon the fore-part of their upper garment two broad strips of white linen or parchment. In this reign, Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, and Hugo de Velles, bishop of Lincoln (in hopes to drive them away by want of sustenance) published injunctions throughout their respective dioceses, that no Christian should presume to have communication with, or sell them any provision, under pain of excommunication. And the same seems to have been done by the bishop of Norwich. Persons unacquainted with the nature of false zeal (continues Tovey, p. 83) when backed by authority, will scarcely believe, that the Jews had been in any great danger of starving, though the king had not interposed in this matter. Yet Rapin tells us, that when the Gerhardine heretics made their appearance, in the time of Henry II, and orders were given not to relieve them, the prohibition was so punctually observed, that all those wretches miserably perished with hunger.

Be it remembered, however, that the prior of Dunstable, much about this time, granted to several Jews free liberty to reside within his lordship, and to enjoy all the privileges of it, in consideration of the annual payment of two silver spoons.

During the sunshine of the king's favor (in 1230) the Jews erected a very stately synagogue in London, which surpassed in magnificence the Christian churches. But the people petitioned the king to take it from them and have it consecrated; which accordingly he complied with. In the 18th year of his reign, upon a petition of the inhabitants of Newcastle, he granted them the inhospitable privilege, that no Jew should ever

ever reside among them. This prince was not free from the confiscatory policy so common in the dark ages, but frequently pillaged the Jews: his necessities, however, would have continued to tolerate them, had not the Pope sent over the Caursini, Christians and Lombards, who were gradually to supersede the ancient practitioners of usury, by conducting it in a manner not disapproved by the church. To such a pitch of hatred was the prejudice, which had been gradually instilled into the people against the Jews, arrived, during this reign, that in 1262, when the king, refusing to stand to the agreement lately made with his barons at Oxford, withdrew into the Tower, and threatened the Londoners for taking part with his enemies; the barons suddenly entered London with great forces, and (to keep the citizens more strongly in their interest) gratified them *with the slaughter of seven hundred Jews at once*, whose houses they first plundered, and then burnt their new synagogue to the ground. It was, however, rebuilt; but, in 1270, taken from them, upon complaint of the Friars Penitents, that they were not able to make the body of Christ in quiet, for the great howlings the Jews made there during their worship.

In the third year of Edward I, a law passed the Commons concerning Judaism, which seemed to promise a qualified security; notwithstanding which, in the year 1290, and the 18th of his reign, the king seized upon all their real estates, and the whole community was for ever banished the kingdom. Yet no sooner (adds the historian) was the inventory made, and every thing sold to the best bidder, than the whole produce was unaccountably squandered away, without one penny being ever set aside for those pious uses, which the king had talked off. From fifteen to sixteen thousand Jews were thus ruined, and then expelled. During the preceding century, they must constantly have been in a state of rapid and progressive diminution: neither is it probable, that the more respectable portion of them should have put so much confidence in edicts of recall, thus frequently and perfidiously revoked, as to have been found settled in England. Yet even these left behind them several valuable libraries, one particularly at Stamford, and another at Oxford, which last being purchased among the scholars, most of the Hebrew books were bought by the famous Roger

Bacon, who, by a short note written in one of them, declared they were of great service to him in his studies. This expulsion was so complete, that no farther traces of English Jews occur until long after the reformation.

[*The subsequent periods of this History will be continued in our next Magazine.*]

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

I SUBMIT to your consideration the propriety of inserting the following sketch of a Tour made last summer into Wales. The same ground has, no doubt, been gone over by former travellers, but the same scenes strike different observers in so very different a manner, and so much depends on the weather and the temper with which places are viewed, as almost to preclude the possibility of sameness. Though the grand features of a landscape, its mountains, valleys, and streams, are unchangeable, yet the different situations from which it may be viewed, the accidental circumstance of sunshine or rain, of a clear or a hazy sky, of morning, or evening, or moonlight, excite very various sensations in the mind of the same beholder; and the variety is almost infinite where the diversity of tempers, pursuits, and previous habits, is taken into the account. For these reasons, I am induced to send you the inclosed journal, in hopes that it may afford some entertainment to your readers, if not by its intrinsic merit, yet, at least, by contributing to the variety of your Collection.

June 29, We set out at four in the morning, *on* the coach (for we wished to see the country through which we travelled) from Shrewsbury to Chirk, where we arrived about nine. From Salop to Oswestry, the chief object in the prospect was the Breiddin-hills, which, sometimes half obscured by clouds, at others partially illuminated by the rays of the sun, formed matter for much and constant observation. The rocks also at Nescleff, both before and after we passed them, were striking features in the landscape. From Oswestry to Chirk, the road winds in a beautiful manner round the bases of the hills, and, being considerably elevated, afforded us an extensive view of the large plain, as it then appeared to us, which was circumscribed by the Wreakin, Stretton-hills, and Pim-hill.

The

The road proceeds thus gently ascending, till within about a quarter of a mile of Chirk, where a new scene burst upon our view. The vale of the river Ceiriog, which forms the boundary-line between England and Wales, was immediately under us, finely wooded, and bounded by a range of swelling hills, over which were seen the Ferwyn mountains on the left, and Chirk castle, with its appendant woods, on the right : a noble road, with a single-arched bridge, over the Ceiriog, brought us to Chirk, which is prettily situated just above the vale. Here we left the coach, and proceeded on foot to the castle.

Chirk castle is situated above the village, on the brow of a fine hill, that overlooks the vale of Ceiriog : it is a good specimen of the ancient castle ; for, except that it has been whitened lately, its exterior does not appear to have undergone the smallest alteration since it was erected. Its shape is oblong, with three tower bastions on each of the sides, and two at the ends, besides a square watch-tower in one of the corners ; the whole connected together by battlements. It struck us, as being rather too low for its extent : the general effect, however, was by no means unpleasing. The park and plantations stretch to a great distance upon the higher hills that back the castle, and are evidently disposed by the hand of a master. The only thing wanted to complete the scene, is a river or lake, and this deficiency has been attempted to be supplied by a piece of *made water* ; which, like most other artificial sheets, looks too like a *plash* left by a flood, and would be a great disfigurement, but that, fortunately, it is visible from few points of view. As we passed through the park, we saw eight or ten goats : the male was a most noble animal ; his long curved horns, his depending beard, the flakyness of his hair, and its beautiful colour (being a light-yellowish dun) all combined to make him the most picturesque figure that I ever saw. From the park, we wandered some miles over the Ferwyn mountains, in search of Llangollen ; and, at last, to our great joy, arrived at the steep summit of a lofty hill, at the foot of which lay the Vale of Llangollen. We descended with no small difficulty, and arrived, much tired, at the town, where we dined.

The beauties of this vale have been so often celebrated, that it would be almost a prophanation to attempt a criticism of

it. I am, nevertheless, inclined to think that much of its beauty arises from its being situated so near the Welch border, that it is usually the first place that travellers arrive at ; and the *novelty* of the scene, together with its beauties, for many beauties it certainly has, operates powerfully on the imagination, and leads us to rank among its *peculiar charms*, features that are, in fact, *common* to all the Welch valleys, and exhibited to much greater advantage, as well as superior in kind, in many other scenes besides the Vale of Llangollen. The mountains that inclose it are rather singular, and of fantastic forms, than beautiful ; the range on one side has very much the appearance of long terraces of fortification, and the opposite mountains are disfigured by rocky bosses, or protuberances, which start out from the surface like warts. *Castle-dinas-brân*, from its elevated site, would be a good object, were it in itself worth seeing ; but, from most positions, it appears merely a shapeless mass of rubbish, and, therefore, is oftener an intrusion upon the view than a pleasing object. The woods, in general, want depth, they are scattered with too sparing a hand ; and though the Dee is beautiful wherever it is visible, yet it lies too low, and is, besides, farther obscured by the young trees with which it is fringed. Old oaks spreading their tortuous branches across a stream, are very beautiful, but such a river as the Dee ought not to be hedged in between groves of hoppoles. The Vale of Llan-Egwest, which opens into that of Llangollen, is a far more interesting spot ; though more confined, deserving the name rather of a glen than a vale, it contains a view which its neighbour can by no means equal. The ruins of the abbey themselves are beautiful ; the hanging wood close behind is so too, as also is the outline and surface of the lofty hill that rises in the farthest distance ; and, in combination, each of these three objects mutually graces the others, so as to form a most enchanting scene ; while the brook at the foot of the wood, though no object in the landscape, by the murmur of its course, completes the harmony of this little Paradise. We slept at Llangollen ; and, on

June 30, Set forward at five in the morning, to Corwen : the road lay along the sides of the mountains above the course of the Dee. The scenery, in general, was much the same as we had observed in the Vale of Llangollen, only the valleys were narrower, and the hills better

better shaped: with regard to wood also, we observed an advantageous change; we had no longer oaks of twenty or thirty years' growth, but the most beautiful specimens of the pendent birch that I ever beheld. Of all trees, none so much as this adorns a rocky crag overhanging a stream, or fleeces the almost perpendicular side of a rugged mountain; even the ash, which in scenes like these generally reigns without a rival, must yield to the pendent birch. Where the scene is purely beautiful, where the hills are clothed with verdure, where the stream is transparent and sparkling, the bright foliage of the ash is in perfect harmony; but in scenes like these which we were passing through, the ash would have been out of character. The mountains are barren almost from their base to the summit, over which the clouds were rolling; the river, though clear, has a deep tinge of brown from the bogs through which it flows in the first part of its course; and the general character of the scene is rather calculated to inspire melancholy than joyous sensations: here, therefore, the deeper green of the leaves of the birch is strictly appropriate; while the silver hue of the trunk, especially when resplendent with a gleam of light, darting through the broken clouds, forms a striking and beautiful contrast. We reached Corwen to breakfast, and proceeded to Bala, where we arrived by dinner. This part of our walk did not offer a single beautiful object, except Bala-pool, so that we were more tired with twelve miles over hills and bogs, than we should have been with twenty through more interesting scenes: nor was the dulness of the prospect relieved by meeting with any scarce plants, or other objects interesting to the naturalist; for, except the *Sedum album*, *Hypericum bumifusum* and *Pinguicula vulgaris*, we saw nothing but what every hedge in the country would afford. After dinner, we went to see the pool, and were better pleased with it than we expected: it is a curve of about six miles long, and one broad; and though its banks are but tame, yet it exhibits many pleasing scenes, particularly from one point where a fine wooded hill is on the left, and Cader-Idris, with its triple summit, appears in the farthest distance, seemingly rising out of the extremity of the lake. The only plant at all rare which we found in this neighbourhood, was the *Fumaria*

Clavicularia, growing sparingly in several places, and, in one instance, vegetating most luxuriantly on the thatch of a cottage.

The next morning, July 1, we set out for Llanwrst, which is distant from Bala 22 miles; of these about 19 were through a country even more dreary than that from Corwen to Bala. Boggy mountains, one after the other, appeared rising in tedious succession; and when, having with labour attained the summit, we expected the view of a rich vale, with woods and cultivated fields, we were disappointed by a lengthened prospect of complete barrenness. Not a tree, not a house was within sight; and were it not for a grand view on our left of the Snowdon mountains, half obscured by clouds, the road would have appeared still more tedious than we actually found it. About the end, however, of the 19th mile, the road led to the brow of a hill, where we were unexpectedly relieved with a view of the vale of Llanwrst just beneath us; extensive, highly cultivated; its shaggy sides hung with a profusion of wood, and the noble river Conway sweeping through in grand and beautiful curves. This sight gave us fresh spirits; and, quickly descending the mountainous barrier of the valley, we found ourselves at Llanwrst. Having refreshed ourselves, we proceeded, after dinner, to explore the beauties of the vale; for this purpose, crossing the river, we went to a fine hanging wood, about half a mile off; at the foot of which is an old mansion, called Gwydir, now a farm-house, the property of Sir P. Burrell. Ascending with some difficulty through the entangled under-wood, for the purpose of obtaining a good point whence to view the vale, we came, quite unexpectedly, to the finest spot that I ever saw. The summit of the hanging wood contains an area of about five or six acres, which has formerly been a garden to the mansion below, as the ruins of a magnificent terrace and the remains of a surrounding wall abundantly testify: the terrace and walls are now clustered with ivy, and shaded by fine old ash-trees. Near the centre stands a pretty Gothic chapel, formerly belonging to the house; and of the ruins of some other edifices are built a few cottages; the rest of the space is partly covered with ash trees and old fruit trees, and partly opens into small natural lawns, in which were beautiful groupes of cattle, some feeding,

others reposing under the shelter of a noble spreading chesnut-tree, close to the chapel, which was probably coeval with the terraces and other ruins: its trunk was of a vast circumference, and placed anywhere it must have been grand, but in its present position it is inexpressibly beautiful. The back of this lovely spot is defended by a natural wall, a perpendicular rock of some hundred feet high; all its crags occupied by noble trees, from which a little streamlet falls in a broken cascade, then watering the area, and lastly hurrying down the hanging wood into the Conway. For a hermit, poet, or lover, I know not a more delightful haunt. About five in the evening, we set out for Conway, following the course of the river; and of the whole of our tour, this hitherto was by far the most beautiful part. The river is a very noble stream, and communicates to the vale through which it flows the most luxuriant fertility. On the left hand, the valley is bounded by the craggy roots of the Snowdon Mountains, adorned with woods, and enlivened by cascades: on the right hand the plain rises into hills of considerable elevation and beautiful forms, but cultivated to their summits; shaded by large masses of woods, and sprinkled with villas. As we passed through the vale, the fine lines in Gray's Bard occurred to our memory:

"On a rock, whose haughty brow
"Frowns o'er old Conway's foaming flood."

Many such a projecting rock did we see, where the Bard might have taken his station; but Gray has totally mistaken the character of the river; the Conway is one of the most placed streams that I ever saw. As we approached Conway, we had a fine view of its noble castle, of the rocky promontory of *Orme's-head*, and the cliffs of *Penmaen-maur*.

[To be continued in our next.]

To the Editor.

SIR,

THE plan you have adopted for the conduct of your Miscellany seems to be calculated to afford a variety of means for the instruction and amusement of your readers; but there is one subject of considerable importance, for which you do not seem to have made sufficient provision: perhaps it may be considered by you as coming under the general head of criticism; but in that

case there is great danger of its being neglected, or at any rate of not receiving that attention to which it is justly entitled. From the number of literary characters, whose assistance you justly rely on in the conduct of your Work, it will not be too much to expect, that some might dedicate a portion of their time to an object, which has in view the improvement of our language, or the correcting of those errors which, from the form of our government, and the state of our manners, are continually encroaching upon beauty and elegance, either by the coining of superfluous words, the perversion of usual phrases, or an affected mode of pronunciation.

I was struck with this idea on reading some Essays in the German language, written by a society, under the direction of Campé, for the sole purpose of noticing the deviations from propriety of speech, arising either from the dialects of an extensive country, or the caprice of the most numerous body of writers in Europe: these Essays are noticed in the Jena Reviews, and the undertaking is worthy of the praise bestowed upon it by the reviewers. The German language and our own are derived from the same source. The German has preserved in a great degree its original purity, our own has been enriched according to the opinion of some, and tainted in the estimation of others, by streams from Latium and Greece. The German has this advantage, that to the commonest understanding many ideas may be clearly conveyed by common words, which in our country would be embarrassed with many technical terms, either Greek or Latin, not to be understood by any Englishman without an application to his Dictionary. Perhaps you will not think it unworthy of your plan to suggest some hints on this subject, which may correct our passion for foreign words, and show to the unprejudiced mind that there is a sufficient fund in our own materials for the combining of new terms, without having recourse so often to foreign assistance.

But if there is a necessity for an Englishman to be so constantly in the habit of borrowing either from his neighbours or from nations no longer in existence, there still might surely be some check put upon the idioms which distinguish at present the pronunciation or expression of different bodies amongst us. Thus we have a pronunciation for

the

the bar, the theatre, the pulpit, the houses of lords and commons, the auction rooms, and similar places; and as it is my lot to fall sometimes into different companies, the conversation with which I am entertained, points out too much the class to which the parties belong, and they seem to vie with each other in endeavouring to remove as far as possible, from the simplest and best modes of expression.

Thus if a bishop reads prayers in a church, our ears are continually tortured with the mincing sounds of *Lud Gud*, in the very places where we wished the greatest solemnity. At table, a man talks to you of his neighbour, whom he *has in his eye*, though the person alluded to is behind him. A player thinks himself disgraced in speaking of a point of no importance, if he does not dwell upon an unfortunate monosyllable, and distort his features to lengthen his *po-int*. I might remark similar inaccuracies, or, I might call them, vulgarities, in the barrister, the judge, the methodist preacher, and city orator, who all seem to fall under one common error, that they cannot make a proper impression upon the audience, if they do not distort their features, drawl out their tones, lay improper emphasis, use inelegant phrases, or in some manner or other destroy the beauty and harmony of our language.

As, in my apprehension, our language does not deserve this treatment, I should be happy to find that you could appportion a part of your Magazine to the noticing of every deformity either in diction or pronunciation, which, either from the ignorance or affectation of a few persons, may lead to its corruption. The materials, I am sorry to say, are too plentiful; but by perseverance we may get the better of many idle habits, and your readers cannot fail of receiving both amusement and instruction from the many valuable observations which will naturally be suggested on the present state of our language, its origin, and probable decline.

A. B. C.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine,

SIR,

THE enclosed was written on the date it bears. Many events have passed since that time; but as none of them give us reason to conclude that the dispositions of the old lady therein men-

tioned are at all altered for the better; what might be said of her in 1793, I conceive is not less proper in 1796; and, therefore, the dialogue is at your service.

DIALOGUE BETWEEN MADAM COSMOGUNIA, AND A PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRER OF THE 18TH CENTURY.

January 1, 1793.

E. I REJOICE, my good madam, to see you. You bear your years extremely well. You really look as fresh and blooming this morning as if you were but just out of your leading-strings, and yet you have—I forget how many centuries upon your shoulders.

C. Do not you know, son, that people of my standing are by no means fond of being too nicely questioned about their years? Besides, my age is a point by no means agreed upon.

E. I thought it was set down in the church register?

C. That is true; but every body does not go by your register. The people who live eastward of us, and have sold tea time out of mind, by the great wall, say I am older by a vast deal; and that long before the time when your people pretend I was born, I had near as much wisdom and learning as I have now.

E. I do not know how that matter might be; one thing I am certain of, that you did not know your *letters* then; and every body knows that these tea-dealers, who are very vain, and want to go higher than any body else for the antiquity of their family, are noted for lying.

C. On the other hand old *Isaac*, the great chronicler, who was so famous for casting a figure, used to say that the register itself had been altered, and that he could prove I was much younger than you have usually reckoned me to be. It may be so; for my part, I cannot be supposed to remember so far back. I could not write in my early youth, and it was a long time before I had a pocket almanac to set down all occurrences in, and the ages of my children, as I do now.

E. Well; your exact age is not so material; but there is one point which I confess I wish much to ascertain: I have often heard it asserted, that as you increase in years, you grow wiser and better; and that you are at this moment, more candid, more liberal, a better manager of your affairs, and, in short, more amiable

amiable in every respect, than ever you were in the whole course of your life; and others—you will excuse me, madam,—pretend that you are almost in your dotage, that you grow more intolerable every year you live; and that, whereas in your childhood you were a sprightly innocent young creature, that rose with the lark, lay down with the lamb, and thought or said no harm of any one; you are become suspicious, selfish, interested, fond of nothing but indulging your appetites, and continually setting your own children together by the ears for straws. Now I should like to know where the truth lies?

C. As to that, I am, perhaps, too nearly concerned to answer you properly. I will, therefore, only observe, that I do not remember the time when I have not heard exactly the same contradictory assertions.

E. I believe the best way to determine the question will be by facts. Pray be so good as to tell me how you have employed yourself in the different periods of your life; from the earliest time you can remember, for instance?

C. I have a very confused remembrance of living in a pleasant garden full of fruit, and of being turned out because I had not minded the injunctions that were laid upon me. After that I became so very naughty, that I got a severe ducking, and was in great danger of being drowned.

E. A hopeful beginning, I must allow! Pray what was the first piece of work you recollect being engaged in?

C. I remember setting myself to build a prodigious high house of cards, which I childishly thought I could raise up to the very skies. I piled them up very high, and at last left off in the middle, and had my tongue slit for being so self-conceited. Afterwards, I baked dirt in the sun, and resolved to make something very magnificent. I hardly knew what; so I built a great many mounds in the form of sugar-loaves, very broad at bottom, and pointed at top:—they took me a great many years to make, and were fit for no earthly purpose when they were done. They are still to be seen, if you choose to take the trouble of going so far. Travellers call them my *folly*.

E. Pray what studies took your attention when you first began to learn?

C. At first I amused myself, as all children do, with pictures; and drew, or rather attempted to draw, figures of lions and serpents, and men with the

heads of animals, and women with fishes' tails; to all which I affixed a meaning, often whimsical enough. Many of these my first scratches are still to be seen upon old walls and stones, and have greatly exercised the ingenuity of the curious to find out what I could possibly mean by them. Afterwards, when I had learned to read, I was wonderfully entertained with stories of giants, griffins, and mermaids; and men and women turned into trees, and horses that spoke, and of an old man that used to eat up his children till his wife deceived him by giving him a stone to eat instead of one of them; and of a conjurer that tied up the wind in bags, and—

E. Hold, hold, my good madam; you have given me a very sufficient proof of that propensity to the marvellous which I have always remarked in you. I suppose, however, you soon grew too old for such nursery stories as these.

C. On the contrary, I amused myself with putting them into verse, and had them sung to me on holidays; and, at this very day, I make a point of teaching them to all my children, in whose education I take any pains.

E. I think I should rather whip them for employing their time so idly; I hope at least these pretty stories kept you out of mischief?

C. I cannot say they did; I never was without a scratched face, or a bloody nose, at any period I can remember.

E. Very promising dispositions, truly!

C. My amusements were not all so mischievous. I was very fond of stargazing, and telling fortunes, and trying a thousand tricks for good luck, many of which have made such an impression on my mind, that I remember them even to this day.

E. I hope, however, your reading was not all of the kind you have mentioned.

C. No. It was at some very famous races, which were held every four years for my diversion, and which I always made a point to be at, that a man once came upon the race-ground, and read a history-book aloud to the whole company: there were, to be sure, a number of stories in it not greatly better than those I have been telling you; however, from that time, I began to take to more serious learning, and likewise to reckon and date all my accounts by these races, which, as I told you, I was very fond of.

E. I think you afterwards went to school, and learnt philosophy and mathematics?

C. I

C. I did so. I had a great many famous masters.

E. Were you a teachable scholar?

C. One of my masters used always to weep when he saw me; another used always to burst into a fit of laughter. I leave you to guess what they thought of me.

E. Pray what did you do when you were in middle age? That is usually esteemed the most valuable part of life.

C. I somehow got shut up in a dark cell, where I took a long nap.

E. And after you waked—

C. I fell a-disputing with all my might.

E. What were the subjects that interested you so much?

C. Several.

E. Pray let us have a specimen?

C. Whether the light of Tabor was created or uncreated; whether *one* be a number; whether men should cross themselves with two fingers or with three; whether the creation was finished in six days, because it is the most perfect number; or whether six is the most perfect number, because the creation was finished in six days; whether two and one make three, or only one.

E. And pray what may be your opinion, of the last proposition, particularly?

C. I have by no means made up my mind about it; in another century, perhaps, I may be able to decide upon the point.

E. These debates of yours had one advantage, however; you could not possibly put yourself in a passion on such kind of subjects.

C. There you are very much mistaken. I was constantly in a passion upon one or other of them; and if my opponent did not agree with me, my constant practice was to knock him down, even if it were in the church. I have the happiness of being able to interest myself in the most indifferent questions as soon as I am contradicted upon it. I can make a very good dispute out of the question, Whether the preference be due to blue or green, in the colour of jockey's cap; and would desire no better cause of a quarrel than whether a person's name should be spelt with C, or with K.

E. These constant disputes must have had a very bad effect on your younger children. How do you hope ever to have a quiet house?

C. And yet, I do assure you, there is no one point that I have laboured more than that important one of family harmony.

E. Indeed!

C. Yes; for the sake of that order and unanimity, which has always been dear to me, I have constantly insisted that all my children should *sneeze* and *blow their noses* at the same time, and in the same manner.

E. May I presume to ask the reason of this injunction?

C. Is it possible you do not see the extreme danger, as well as indecorum, of suffering every one to blow his nose his own way? Could you trust any one with the keys of your offices, who sneezed to the right when other people sneezed to the left; or to the left when they sneezed to the right?

E. I confess I am rather dull in discerning the inconvenience that would ensue; but pray have you been able to accomplish this desirable uniformity?

C. I acknowledge I have not; and indeed I have met with so much obstinate resistance to this my wise regulation, that, to tell you the truth, I am almost on the point of giving it up. You would hardly believe the perverseness my children have shown on the occasion; blowing their noses, locked up in their rooms, or in dark corners about the house, in every possible way; so that, in short, on pretence of colds, tender noses, or want of pocket handkerchiefs, or one plea or another, I have been obliged to tolerate the uncomplying, very much against my will. However, I contrived to show my disapprobation, at least, of such scandalous irregularities, by never saying *God bless you*, if a person sneezes in the family contrary to established rule.

E. I am glad, at least, you are in this respect got a little nearer to common sense. As you seem to have been of so impious a disposition, I hope you were not trusted with any mischievous weapons?

C. At first I used to fight with clubs and stones; afterwards with other weapons; but at length I contrived to get at gunpowder, and then I did glorious mischief.

E. Pray you had never any body who taught you better?

C. Yes, several wise men, from time to time, attempted to mend my manners, and reform me, as they called it.

E. And how did you behave to them?

C. Some I hunted about; some I poisoned; some I contrived to have thrown into prison; some I made bonfires of; others I only laughed at. It was but the other day that one of them wanted

wanted to give me some hints for the better regulation of my family, upon which I pulled his house down : I was often, however, the better for the lesson, though the teacher had seldom the pleasure of seeing it.

E. I have heard it said, you are very partial to your children, that you pamper some, and starve others. Pray who are your favourites?

C. Generally, those who do the most mischief.

E. Had you not once a great favourite called Louis, whom you used to style the immortal man?

C. I had so. I was continually repeating his name, I set up a great number of statues to him, and ordered that every one should pull off his hat to them as he went by.

E. And what is become of them now?

C. The other day, in a fit of spleen, I kicked them all down again.

E. I think I have read, that you were once much under the influence of an old man, with a high-crowned hat, and a bunch of keys by his side?

C. It is true. He used to frighten me by setting his arms a-kimbo, and swearing most terribly ; besides which, he was always threatening to put me in a dark hole, if I did not do as he would have me. He has conjured many pence out of my pocket, I assure you ; and he used to make me believe the strangest stories ! But I have now pretty nearly done with him ; he dares not speak so big as he used to do : hardly a shoe-black will pull off his hat to him now ; it is even as much as he can do to keep his own tight upon his head ; nay, I have been assured, that the next high wind will certainly blow it off.

E. You must doubtless have made great advances in the art of reasoning, from the various lights and experiments of modern times : pray what was the last philosophical study that engaged your attention?

C. One of the last was a system of quackery, called *Animal Magnetism*,

E. And what in theology?

C. A system of quackery, called *Swedenborgianism*.

E. And pray what are you doing at this moment?

C. I am going to turn over quite a new leaf. I am singing *Ca Ira*.

E. I do not know whether you are going to turn over a new leaf or no, but I am sure, from this account, it is high time you should. All I can say, is, that

if I cannot mend you, I will endeavour to take care you do not spoil me ; and one thing more, that I wish you would lay your commands on Miss Burney, to write a new novel, and make you laugh.

To the Editor.

SIR,
OUR vice-chancellor has taken the Pythagorean maxim on silence for the subject of the prize epigram. Whether to make us attentive to the many good maxims on silence in Stobæus, or as an oblique mode of passing an encomium on a celebrated acquitted felon, who by many, for his political (by all for his literary) talents, is esteemed an ornament to our university, it is not for me to determine. The Pythagorean maxim was, as our vice-chancellor has delivered it, Χριστιανοὶ καὶ σιγητοὶ σιγῆς λέγειν, which, translated into plain English, by Mr. Tooke, before the privy council, and by the vice chancellor, under the existing circumstances of the two bills, is, Let Mum be the order of the day. The sentiment is, perhaps, expressed more neatly in the usual manner : "λέγε οὐ σιγῆς υπερθέμενοι οὐ σιγῆς εἰχειν ; but whether the vice-chancellor has adopted or not the best mode of conveying his sentiments, permit me to express my opinion, that, in the perturbation of men's minds at present on political subjects, every allusion to them should, in the seats of literature, be carefully avoided.

M Coll. Camb.

February 2. ACADEMICUS,

ORIGINAL BIOGRAPHY.

[The following original and authentic sketch of the Life of that eminent artist, the late Mr. MORTIMER, we presume will be acceptable to the public.—We hope to be able to furnish a variety of original matter of this kind, and we solicit the favours of correspondents for the purpose.]

For the Monthly Magazine.

THE LIFE OF MORTIMER, THE PAINTER.

JOHN HAMILTON MORTIMER, a painter of uncommon powers, cut off as he was approaching the meridian of his excellence, was born at Eastbourne in the county of Sussex : his father was a collector of the customs at that port, who bore a most respectable character. There were four children ; John was the eldest ; his brother at this very

very time holds the place under government which belonged to his father; and the other two were daughters. Our painter caught a love for the art, which he afterwards professed with so much honour to himself, from two very remarkable circumstances: — Before his eyes were constantly some drawings, by an uncle of the same name, who, though he never rose above mediocrity, has yet left behind him some works which will preserve his name from oblivion, particularly the altar-piece at Aylesbury church (*a*), and the portraits of Pat Alexander, and of an old woodman in that neighbourhood. As this man was an itinerant, his works are still to be seen in several parts of Great Britain, particularly in Yorkshire.

Nor was the young designer at a loss for objects on which to indulge his sportive fancy; for the peculiar situation in which he was placed, occasioned him to observe the proceedings of that ferocious and cuuning tribe of men, the smugglers, and led him to be very conversant with the wild scenes of nature, and the terrific grandeur of the sea, in watching their artful proceedings, that his parent might best pursue those measures which the duty of his office called upon him to fulfil. Relative affection might be said to have produced the desire, and local circumstances to form the peculiar taste, of one who, every where but in his paintings, possessed mildness and urbanity of manners in the highest degree. Was nature, indeed, more listened to than it is in the choice of a profession, we should not so often have occasion to lament that dulness has admittance where genius alone should be found, and that Genius herself had mistaken her aim, in choosing that avocation which too much tended to cramp her powers and clip her wings. From education young Mortimer received no great advantages, as it was merely that which his own, then obscure, village afforded; but, however, from being frequently in company with men of talents, he acquired a greater knowledge of the Poets than is generally possessed by persons whose pursuits do not absolutely oblige them to live on the fruits of their literary stock.

Contrary to the pernicious maxims which the most cautious parents generally adopt, in dictating to their chil-

dren the walk of life in which they should tread, they who had the happiness of calling this child their own, fanned the rising flame, and placed him for three years with Mr. Hudson, giving a premium of 100*l.* for that purpose; having taken great delight in looking at those drawings which he had produced from time to time in copy-books, which they procured him for that purpose, several of which are in the possession of Knight C. of Shropshire. At Mr. Hudson's, he succeeded Sir Joshua Reynolds, and had for his fellow pupil Mr. Wright, of Derby; names which can never be mentioned without exciting agreeable emotions. Whilst he was here, and for a considerable time afterwards, he attended the Duke of Richmond's gallery (*b*), which was, indeed, his school, and where his assiduity, his exertions, and his opening powers were so much noticed by Cipriani, and the late Mr. Moser, that they represented him so favourably to the illustrious nobleman, whose liberal scheme might be said greatly to have contributed to the encouragement of young artists (who, previous to that period, laboured under peculiar discouragements, from which they are now in some measure freed) that he wished very much to have retained him in his house, which offer he rejected on some account or other.

When the artists exhibited their pictures at Spring Gardens, he contended the palm with Hayman, who might have been styled the father of historic painting, in England, and bore it away, which was no small honour, when such were the competitors. The subject was the Conversion of the Britons by St. Paul, and is now placed over the altar at the church of Chipping-Wycombe, for which purpose it was retouched, in 1778, having been previously given by Dr. Bates, then of Missenden, but now of Red-Lion Square, to whose liberal communications the writer of this article is greatly indebted, and whose heart will ever feel the manner in which that obligation, as well as many others, was conferred.

About this time, Mr. Mortimer resided at one Maronne's, a bookseller, under the Piazzas in Covent-Garden, where he contracted an intimacy with several that were distinguished for the liveliness of their parts, rather than from any solid properties which they

(*a*) The subject was the Lord's Supper. Mortimer intended to have retouched it, if he had survived.

(*b*) See a note of Mr. Hayley, in his *Art of Painting*, p. 94.

had to recommend them ; and he frequently lamented that the course of life which he then pursued was extremely injurious to his health. He then took a house in the church-yard of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, belonging to Mr. Langford, the auctioneer, and resided in it several years, till he married Miss Jane Thirsel, at that church, and afterwards resided in Norfolk street, where his widow now lives. Never was a man more happy in such a connection, or a woman more miserable when death deprived her of him. They possessed, in an uncommon degree, the same turn of mind, brilliancy of fancy, and smartness of repartee, accompanied with the utmost cheerfulness of temper. Several times have I partaken of this feast of reason, and deeply regret that it is a banquet of which I am no longer called upon to partake.

In 1774, he exhibited his *Progress of Vice*, taking Salvator Rosa for his model, and at length greatly surpassed him. In his *Progress of Virtue*, which he drew as a companion, he was not so successful. It seldom happens that an after-thought will answer, for then is lost the vivid fire which gave the glowing feature to the whole. Tired of the dissipations to which he had been too long accustomed, and induced by Dr. Bates to settle at a large house, belonging to that gentleman, at Aylesbury, in Bucks, where was a very spacious room, entirely calculated to show his paintings to advantage, and a garden, from which was a very extensive prospect to be beheld, he cheerfully acceded to it as a residence for the summer months. While he was recovering his health and forming the tone of his mind anew, he cultivated with greater ardour than ever his bold designs ; and having been introduced by his learned patron to five families in the neighbourhood, viz. Mr. Kenyon's, &c. at the Vatch Chalfant, St. Giles's, where Sir Hugh Palliser now resides ; Mr. Drake's, of Chardiloes, Agmondesham ; Coulston Scottowe, esq. late colonel of the Bucks militia ; the late Mr. Grubb, of Horsenden ; and lord le Despencer, he painted as much in one year as amounted to 900l. Nor did this retirement prove abortive in the highest sense, for having once broken the charm, and betaken himself to practices more becoming a rational mind, his discourse now became decent and guarded, and his attendance on the duties of religion very exact ; and, indeed, one that well knew him, ob-

served, that religion seemed to have taken a very strong hold of his mind. The larger works of this artist are so well known, that a bare enumeration is sufficient (*c*), viz. 1. King John signing Magna Charta ; 2. The Battle of Agincourt ; 3. The Origin of Health ; 4. Twelve Characters from Shakspeare, and four representing the Tragic and Comic Muse, Poetry, and Painting ; 5. Banditti, from Salvator Rosa ; 6. A set of Monsters, which were designed to contrast the horrible and the tender ; 7. A group of Geniuses in caricature, viz. Johnson, Churchill, Goldsmith, &c. As a Portrait Painter, he did not possess much excellence. Still life had not sufficient attractions for his romantic mind ; he has, however, drawn several. Besides Mr. Drake's family (*d*), there are some good portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Scottowe ; Mrs. Wells, wife of the Rev. John Wells, of Great Missenden, in the possession of her father, Joseph Burnham, esq. ; Mrs. Mortimer, and Mrs. Pigott.

He also assisted others ; for the figures in Paton's *Sea Views*, which were sent over to the Empress of Russia, being representations of important victories gained by her, were drawn by him. Jervase frequently employed him, and, among other works, the design of the Great Window at Salisbury cathedral is done by him. The leisure moments of Mr. Mortimer were employed in drawing designs for Bell and others : those which were prefixed to the first edition of *Evelina* were of his performance. His designs are, indeed, preferred to his paintings, by those who have had an opportunity to examine both with attention. The heat of genius was not cooled by staying too long on the anvil of industry ; there are some fine sketches still in the possession of Dr. Bates ; one especially, of Mr. Kenyon's family, with the original sketch at the bottom of the paper.

It was astonishing to observe with

(c) A critical examination of his beauties and defects, together with a very full account of his life, may one day or other come from the pen of one every way adequate to the task.

(d) This picture contains the portraits of Mr. Drake, sen—2. Mr. W. D. who died the other day, universally lamented—3. Dr. Drake, rector of Agmondesham—4. Mr. Territ D. who succeeds to the estate of his brother William—5. Mr. Garrard D.—6. Miss Drake—7. Mrs. Banks, her sister, the wife of a clergyman of that name.

what rapidity he wrought. Once I remember to have been with him when he was engaged in painting the Battle of Agincourt, and hardly could I tell which to admire most, the quickness with which his pencil wrought, or the energy of his remarks. No man seemed less conscious of his own powers than himself, or less unwilling to encourage others who had the smallest pretensions to excellence (*e*). Before he attempted any work of importance, he always devoted some time to the perusal of that author which would give him the most information; and, indeed, his conversation frequently turned on allusions to the politest writers, expressed in the most forcible terms. After the sketch had been drawn, he generally gave himself some rest, though he often applied to the drag-net by way of exercise.

The career of this true devotee to Apollo terminated sooner and, much more suddenly, than could have been wished. He stayed at Aylesbury till about the close of the year, and went to London as well as usual. The evening but one before he went up, I supped at his house, in company with some friends, and he seemed as cheerful as ever, and talked of writing his life in Hudibrastic verse. Soon after, however, an alteration took place; he was seized with a violent fever, which preying upon a constitution already weak, carried him off in a few days, to the regret of all that knew him. He was attended by two physicians; but, being desirous of seeing his old friend, Dr. B. he came up to him, and, alas! had the pain to behold his lively friend give up the ghost in his arms. He died February 4, 1779, aged 38 years, at a time when Envy was withdrawing her shafts, and the voice of Truth was heard with attention. He is dead, but his memory lives in my heart; for there was that about him, independent of his talents, which must make an humble admirer of true worth and cultivated understanding regret his loss.

Bucks, Feb. 6, 1796.

LIBRA.

(*e*) Among others, Mr. Brett, of Aylesbury, cannot pass unnoticed; though an house-painter, he copied much with approbation, and drew one or two things which were well spoken of: his manners were gentle, but his fortune in life indifferent. His son also possesses the power of copying to a great degree, and would have been brought forward into life if this ingenious man had not been taken off so soon.

For the Monthly Magazine.

ACCOUNT OF AN USEFUL INSTITUTION OF THE FRENCH.

AMONG the institutions favourable to the speedy dispersion of information, one has been called forth at Paris, by the political state, and diffusive culture of the people, which may deserve imitation in other countries. It is called in France a *Cabinet de Lecture*, or reading-shop. All the streets of Paris are supplied with these rooms, some on the ground-floor, some, and these are most quiet, above stairs. The owner provides periodical publications, such as the principal newspapers, magazines, reviews, annual registers, &c.; provides a standing library, consisting of maps, gazetteers, statistical dictionaries, and of the more eminent political writings; and provides all the pamphlets and hand-bills of the time, with impartial profusion.—These shops are open from eight in the morning until ten in the evening. They are shaded in summer by blinds, warmed in winter by stoves, and, at dark, are illuminated by Argand's lamps. Desks and chairs are commodiously arranged for the customers. Tents, or moveable shops of this kind, are occasionally pitched in the Garden of Equality, in the Tuilleries, in the Elysian Fields, in the groves of the Luxembourg. Persons are allowed to subscribe by the quarter, the month, the week, the day; and, in consequence of such subscription, can use, in the room, any of the books with which it is furnished. The shop-keeper, mostly a female, delivers them out. To a single sitting, any one is admitted for two-pence, and may thus acquaint himself with the topics of the day, in the speeches and pamphlets of the leading public characters. A small expence is sufficient to found such a library, which mostly supports itself with profit. It is common for the shop-keepers to be in connection with some principal book-seller, and to vend any of the articles exposed for perusal, at a price marked in the title-page. Neither coffee nor conversation is admitted. The silence of a church prevails. These reading-rooms have done more to form the public mind of the Parisians, than the conversations of the Caffé de Foi, the disputations of the Jacobins, or even the galleries of the National Convention. The proprietors vie with each other in the affected elegance of their designa-

tions. One shop calls itself the *Altar of the Muses*, another the *Temple of Instruction*, a third the *Cradle of Opinion*, and a fourth the *Coffin of Prejudice!*

For the Monthly Magazine.

AGAINST LUXURY.

A Chapter never before translated; from the
POLITICS OF ARISTOTLE.

WEALTH, or property, like all other passing things, is to be considered two ways, as matter and form ; the matter being from nature, as the wheat, the wool, the marble, the gold ; and the form from man, as the loaf, the garment, the temple, the drachma. In some things there is more of matter ; as, in a loaf of three oboles, I obtain for two oboles of wheat, and, for one obole only, in the work of the grinder, the kneader, and the baker. In other things there is more of form ; as in the Bombacyne of Cyprus, of which three drachmas' worth contains of wool for one drachma only, and for two of gain made by the weaver, the teazer, and the merchant.

Now, the matter only can serve for food, raiment, shelter, or otherwise for the support of existence ; for the form, in proportion as it abounds, implies a waste of matter. If it require the wool of one sheep to make the blanket of a Cynic, it will require the wool of two to make the Syrian cloke of a Satrap ; much of the fleeces having in this been cast away for coarseness, much for ill colour, some for rude spinning, and some was clipped into down by the smoother of the surface ; yet shall Diogenes, with his single fleece, be longer clad than Darius with his two. Thus again, a bushel of shipmen's biscuits comes to cost little more than an equal measure of corn ; but the white cakes for sacrifice are many times dearer than a like quantity of wheat ; yet the former, not the latter, will most nourish the eater ; for of these the bran was sifted away, and thrown to the doves, the chippings were trodden under foot, and, of the finer flour, much was dissipated in dust ; their form having been given with a loss of matter, which last alone profits.

It is nature, then, who supports man. What, out of effeminacy, he bestows upon her productions, only diminishes his own means of subsistence. Also has she, as it were in vengeance, made it necessary that complex forms can only

be given to her productions by lessening the number of the virtuous : for, if matter alone supports life, the number of the living must keep pace with the plenty of natural productions, with the abundance of matter, and must be somewhat abridged by every impression of form. Moreover it being the office of the servile class, and never of the free, to impress form, a greater proportion of the servile, or unworthy class, must be provided with support out of the productions of nature, and fewer of the free, or virtuous class, if much of form be usually impressed upon things, than if but little ; for such natural productions are in quantity definite, and must maintain so many only. Sparta, therefore, which, in its furniture, is not given to other than rude workmanship, has found the increase of Helots often to be excessive, but of citizens never ; and, therefore, the masters are permitted to hunt and destroy the slaves. Whereas, Athens, which willingly prizes every thing rather for its shape than its material, that is, for the abundance of form, is continually necessitated to import slaves from among the barbarians, in order to employ them as artificers. It has, however, had to dismiss more colonies of free citizens, who are the strength and honour of states, than even the sea-towns of the Ionians.

The lawgiver, therefore, whom it becomes rather to multiply the citizen than the alien ; those who love their country, rather than those who value not its welfare ; those from among whom are drawn the ornaments of the forum and the thunderbolts of war, rather than the polishers of pebbles or the carvers of golden grasshoppers ;—he will forbid the use of such clothes, dwellings, food, or furniture, as are valued for their form, not for their matter ; and he will command a preference for those in which matter, not form, abounds. All labor bestowed upon what is of nature, being not only a labor in vain, which merely effeminacy defiles, but a labor which even lessens in produce the power of benefitting ; and a labor which obtains nourishment wholly for the untaught and the unworthy.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE Treatise on Man, his intellectual faculties, and his education, by the celebrated Helvetius, appears to have been

been much read in various parts of Europe; and the author seems to have made many proselytes. But the system of Helvetius, though artfully constructed, and with great logical subtilty, does not appear to me to be grounded upon nature, truth, or reason. His work, however, contains a variety of observations on human nature, which may be read with advantage, and are well worthy of attention.

Helvetius says, towards the beginning of his work, "I regard the understanding, the virtue, and genius of man, as the product of instruction." He afterwards states it as a question, "Whether in each individual, his talents and his virtues be the effect of his organization, or of the education he receives?" And he declares himself to be of the latter opinion; that the talents and the virtues of every individual are the effect of the education he has received.

Helvetius also says, "If I can demonstrate, that man is, in fact, nothing more than the product of his education, I shall, doubtless, reveal an important truth to mankind." He certainly could have done so; but I am perfectly convinced, that he has produced no such demonstration; though he has sufficiently proved, that education has a very powerful influence both upon the moral and intellectual characters of men.

A Spanish writer on education, Huartes, was so far from concurring in sentiment with Helvetius, that he makes the following observations on the subject: "Were I myself a master, before I received any scholar to my school, I would sift him narrowly, to find out, if I could, what kind of genius he had; and if I discovered in him a propensity for learning, I would cheerfully receive him; but, if I found he was not in the least capable of any learning, I would advise him to waste no more time, nor lose any more pains, but seek out some other way to live, that requires not such abilities as learning does. Experience exactly agrees with this; for we see a great many scholars enter upon the study of each science, let the master be good or bad; and, in conclusion, some attain to great learning, others to indifferent; and the rest have done nothing, throughout their whole course, but lost their time, spent their money, and beat their brains to no purpose.

" The difficulty of accounting for this would not be great, if we duly reflected, that those who are unapt for one, are fit for another science; and, that the most ingenious in one sort of learning, proceeding to another, make nothing of it. I myself can attest the truth of this: for there were three school-fellows of us, who were set at the same time to learn Latin. One took it very readily; the other two could never so much as make a tolerable oration. However, all three fell upon logic; and one that could make no hand of grammar, eagle-like, penetrated into that art, whereas the other two could not advance the least step therein during the whole course. But then again all three passing to the study of astronomy, it was very observable, that he who could neither learn Latin nor Logic, in a few days' space understood Astronomy better than the master who taught him, of which the other two could understand nothing*."

If the sentiment of Helvetius were founded in truth, that the talents of every man are merely the effect of the education he receives, it may be supposed, that if you could discover in what manner Homer or Shakspeare were educated, you have nothing to do but to get twenty boys from any place whatever, and educate them in the same manner in which Homer and Shakspeare were educated, and you would immediately produce the same number of Homers and Shakspeares. It is the same, according to Helvetius, with virtue as with genius: they are both the result of education. It might, therefore, be presumed, that, according to his system, if you could discover the method in which Jonas Hanway and John Howard had been educated, you might in like manner take twenty other boys from the same place, or from any other, and educate them in the same manner, and you would immediately produce the same number of Hanways and Howards. But though this at the first view seems to be the necessary result of his system, yet this consequence does not result from his system when it is more accurately examined. For he maintains, that no two persons ever do receive the same edu-

* A Treatise of the Education and Learning proper for the different Capacities of Youth, p. 17, translated from the Spanish, 12mo. 1734.

tion. "What is necessary," he says, "in order that two individuals should receive precisely the same education? That they should be precisely in the same positions and the same circumstances. Now this is what never can take place. It is evident, therefore, that no two persons can receive the same instruction." In another place, he says, "It is at the very instant when a child receives motion and life, that it receives its first instruction. It is sometimes even in the womb where it is conceived, that it learns to distinguish between sickness and health." — "When some months have passed, its sight is distinct, its organs are fortified, it becomes by degrees susceptible of all impressions; then the senses of seeing, hearing, tasting, touching, smelling, in a word, all the inlets to the mind are set open; then all the objects of nature rush thither in crowds, and engrave an infinity of ideas on the memory. In these first moments, what can be true instructors of infancy? The divers sensations it feels: these are so many instructions it receives." — "If two children have the same preceptor, if they are taught to distinguish their letters, to read and repeat their catechism, &c. they are supposed to receive the same education." But "the true preceptors of a child are the objects that surround him: these are the instructors to whom he owes almost all his ideas."

Helvetius states, that it is to chance that the public are often indebted for illustrious characters. He first instances in the case of Vaucanson, whom he represents as having been led to the study of mechanics, in which he greatly distinguished himself, by the accidental circumstance of his being left in a particular room, while his mother was engaged with her spiritual director; on which occasion he had nothing to amuse him but the motions of a clock that happened to stand in the room. Helvetius then says, "A chance of the same sort illuminated the genius of Milton. Cromwell died, his son succeeded him, and was driven out of England. Milton participated his ill fortune; he lost the place of secretary to the protector, was imprisoned, released, and driven into exile. At last he returned, retired to the country, and there, in the leisure of retreat and disgrace, he executed the poem which he had projected in his youth, and which has placed him in the

rank of the greatest of men." But the fact is, that Milton had distinguished himself by his genius, and by his publications, even more than ten years before the execution of Charles the First. He never left his country after the restoration; nor can the production of the *Paradise Lost* be properly attributed to any of the circumstances enumerated by Helvetius.

He next proceeds to Shakspeare. He says, "If Shakspeare had been like his father, always a dealer in wool; if his imprudence had not obliged him to quit his trade and his country; if he had not associated with libertines, and stole deer from the park of a nobleman; had not been pursued for theft, and obliged to take refuge in London; engage in a company of actors; and, at last, disgusted with being an indifferent performer, he had not turned author; the prudent Shakspeare had never been the celebrated Shakspeare; and whatever ability he might have acquired in the trade of wool, his name would never have reflected a lustre on England."

Accidental circumstances might be the means of bringing Shakspeare to London, and of causing him to commence dramatic writer; but it by no means follows from thence, that his uncommon powers of mind were the result of those circumstances. Accidental circumstances caused Cibber to become a dramatic writer; but they did not make a Shakspeare of him. Cibber himself states, that if he had not become a player, and a dramatic writer, he was in some danger of being a bishop. "Had my father's business," says he, "permitted him to have carried me one month sooner, as he intended, to the university, who knows, but by this time, that purer fountain might have washed my imperfections into a capacity of writing, instead of plays and annual odes, sermons and pastoral letters*?"

That accidental circumstances may be the means of placing a man in a situation, which will give him an opportunity of exhibiting talents, which otherwise he would have been unable to display, I shall readily admit. Accidental circumstances, and particular situations, may also lead a man to a more vigorous exertion of his powers, than would otherwise have probably taken place. But, when all this is admitted, the con-

* Apology, Vol. I, p. 47.
clusions

clusions of Helvetius do not follow from his premises.

Those who have paid much attention to human characters, can hardly, I think, have avoided observing, that in some you discover a greater quickness of conception than in others, greater powers of discrimination, a more correct judgment, a more fertile imagination, and greater strength of memory. Nor can the striking difference which you see in different men, in these respects, ever be accounted for by the difference of their education, or the different situations in which they have been placed. A great difference, with respect to intellect, is observable in children of the same age, and brought up together. It appears to me, that the different degrees of vigour in the intellectual powers of men, whether it arises from material organization, or from whatever cause, is as striking, and as apparent, as their difference in stature, or in bodily strength.

Feb. 15, 1796.

J. T.

For the Monthly Magazine.

ORIGIN OF THE MAY-POLE.

THE leisure days after seed-time had been chosen by our Saxon ancestors for folk-motes, or conventions of the people. Not till after the Norman conquest, the Pagan festival of Whitsuntide fully melted into the Christian holiday of Pentecost. Its original name is Wittentide, the time of choosing the WITS or WISE MEN to the WITTEN-AGEMOTTE. It was consecrated to Hertha, the goddess of peace and fertility; and no quarrels might be maintained, no blood shed, during this truce of the goddess. Each village, in the absence of the baron, at the assembly of the nation, enjoyed a kind of Saturnalia. The vassals met upon the common green round the May-pole, where they elected a village-lord, or king, as he was called, who chose his queen. He wore an oaken, and she a hawthorn wreath, and together they gave laws to the rustic sports during these sweet days of freedom. The MAY-POLE then is the English TREE OF LIBERTY! Are there many yet standing?

MATHEMATICAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor.

SIR,

ON reading over, some years ago, the Analytics of Dr. Waring, I was struck

with the obscurity which pervaded the whole work: but my attention was more taken up with the endeavour to make myself master of the author's ideas than to examine the general foundations of his reasoning. Some particular circumstances led me, not long ago, to review my knowledge upon this subject; and, with the utmost deference to this celebrated mathematician, I could not help admitting the conjecture, that many difficulties in his writings arise from some circumstances being taken for granted, which have no foundation in nature, and from certain improprieties in language, which might, without any danger to his subjects, have been avoided.

Thus every person, conversant with the works of WARING, Euler, and others, on the analytics, must be sensible of the many difficulties attending the celebrated problem, to discover the sum of n powers of the roots of an equation of any dimensions, in terms of the co-efficients of that equation. And after having followed the usual process in forming equations, observed the increase in the co-efficients in each succeeding equation, and brought out the general conclusion, I was struck with the idea, that my labours were futile; and that the principle, on which my superstructure was built, namely, that equations are formed by the multiplication of equations of inferior dimensions, was founded in error.

Should my idea be right, I hope, that no one will suppose me capable of attempting to derogate in the least from the merit attached, certainly with justice, to the first mathematician in this country. If I cannot allow, that his conclusions are right, when referred to equations in general, still his theorems will be studied with pleasure and advantage, if, by a change of terms, we consider them as applicable only to the investigation of the properties of a manifold term, arising from the multiplication of double terms, consisting each of a known and an unknown term. Again, if my idea is right, it is evident, that much of the labour of the student in the higher algebra, will be superseded by the adoption of simpler principles; that many works treating on the changes of the signs, in an equation, the nature of positive and negative roots, the strange position and absolute jargon, of impossible roots, may be laid aside, without detriment to general knowledge; and that instead of useless toil in the old beaten track,

[Feb.]

track, which the experience of two ages shows to end in mazes and quagmires, we should recal our wandering steps, and endeavour to find out a better path in the recesses of science.

That the position on which the modern reasoning on the formation of equations is false, may, I think, be proved satisfactorily to any one, who has been instructed in the first rudiments of Algebra. For a quadratic equation, two simple equations are multiplied together, generally denoted by $x-a=0$ and $x-b=0$; for a cubic equation, three simple equations; and for an equation of higher dimensions, as many simple equations as that equation has dimensions. In the first instance, $x-a=0$ is multiplied into $x-b=0$, and, consequently, the result, $x^2 - x \cdot a + b + ab = 0$, is equal to nothing. Of the last equation, there are evidently two roots, a and b , which may be ascertained without reference to the supposed multiplication; and, in fact, this equation does not result from the supposed multiplication; for if $x-a=0$, the unknown quantity in the second equation ought not to be called x , but by some other term, and then if the two equations are multiplied together, $x-a=0$, and $y-b=0$, the result will be, $xy - ay - bx + ab = 0$; that is, the equation will be equal to nothing, when x is equal to a , or y is equal to b .

I do not deny that an equation may be formed by the multiplication of double terms, and a simple instance will be the means of farther showing the fallacy of the modern mode of reasoning, and the falsehood of the assertion, that an equation has as many roots as it has dimensions. Let a and b be any determinate quantities, a being greater than b , and x , the unknown quantity, greater than a . By multiplying together $x-a$, and $x-b$, we obtain the compound sum $x^2 - x \cdot a + b + ab$. Now, since x is a variable quantity, I may suppose it to diminish, till it becomes equal to a , and, consequently, in that situation, my compound form will become a quadratic equation, $x^2 - px + q = 0$. Let x be diminished still more, till it becomes equal to b , and the compound form will again become a quadratic, whose root is equal to b , resulting not from the multiplication $x-a$ into $x-b$, but from that of $a-x$ into $x-b$. We have obtained, then, by this mode of framing a quadratic equation, the knowledge of the truth, that in equations of this form $x^2 - px +$

$q = 0$, there are two roots: and the same truth is discoverable in a much easier manner, without this tedious process of multiplying, by a very slight inspection of the equations.

But if something has thus been done, though in a bad manner, by multiplying in one form of a quadratic, what are we to do in other cases, when, for example, it is made to be $x^2 + px - q = 0$? ---We are told that this will result from the multiplication of $x+a=0$, into $x-b=0$, and, consequently, that the equation will still have two roots, a and b . I allow, that it will result from the multiplication of the double terms $x+a$ and $x-b$, and that the result may become, $x^2 + x \cdot a - b - ab = 0$.---But, whether I consider the formation of this equation, or investigate its peculiar nature, I cannot discover more than one root, and it appears to me impossible, as it must, I think, to every person, that it should have more than one root, which is b . For $x+a$ can never become equal to nothing; and this equation cannot, therefore, result from the multiplication together of two simple equations. Again, from inspecting the quadratic, it is discovered at first sight, that x cannot be equal to a . In this case, therefore, it is not true, that an equation has as many roots as dimensions; and I might go on to prove the same in equations of higher dimensions, some of which will have as many roots as dimensions, and others will not. The investigating of the number of roots in an equation from the nature of its form, will lead to real satisfactory knowledge, of great use in the mixed mathematics, whilst the other mode of treating equations, as produced from multiplying simple equations together, or equations of lower dimensions, has confounded a plain, simple, and elegant science; instead of sharpening the faculties of the mind, has blunted its natural edge, and has made many a student a mere technical transposer of figures upon paper, instead of an accurate reasoner.

The limits of my paper do not permit me to expatiate farther upon this subject; and, indeed, it is unnecessary, till I hear with what reception my first ideas may meet among your scientific correspondents. They will see clearly to what extent my reasoning proceeds; namely, that the changes of signs in an equation have no reference at all to the supposed nature of the roots, according to their quality

quality of being positive or negative ; and that the supposition of there being an impossible root in an equation, is an absurdity, arising either from false reasoning on good premises, or right reasoning on false premises ; or it may be from false premises and bad reasoning upon them ; and that Waring's celebrated proposition can be of no use at all but in some few equations, whose form not having been ascertained, the student will most probably err in the application of the rule, to discover the sums of the powers of the roots, in any proposed equation. I remain, sir,

Your sincere well wisher,

A. SEARCH.

NEW MATHEMATICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTIONS.

To be answered by Correspondents in a future Number.

QUESTION I.—By Mr. Thomas Browne.

If the wind, when blowing directly against a board of one foot square, set upright facing the wind, exert against the board a force equal to

the weight of 10 pounds : it is required to show what is the rate of velocity of the wind ; with a general rule for all such cases ?

QUESTION II.—By Mr. J. North.

It has been said, that abstracting from the refraction of light the sum of the lengths of the longest and shortest days, in any latitude, is equal to 24 hours ; and also, that the sum of the lengths of any other two days, when the sun has equal and contrary declinations, is everywhere equal to 24 hours.—Required, a demonstration of the truth or falsehood of this assertion ?

QUESTION III.—By Mr. W. Gough.

From what height must a cannon-ball fall, to strike an object with the same force as it would in issuing from the mouth of a gun, supposing the velocity with which it was fired to be that of 1500 feet per second ?

QUESTION IV.—By Mr. J. B.

It is asserted by the chemists, that a point may be ascertained in the thermometrical scale, which shall denote the natural zero, or absolute privation of heat. As an instance of this, it is required to show how many degrees of refrigeration would deprive ice of all its heat, and to give an investigation of the rule, using Fahrenheit's scale ?

ORIGINAL ANECDOTES AND REMAINS OF EMINENT PERSONS.

[This article is devoted to the reception of Biographical Anecdotes, Papers, Letters, &c. and we request the Communications of such of our Readers as can assist us in these objects.]

LAURENCE ECHARD.

THIS writer, however slightly he may be regarded, on account of his credulity, and for the little spirit of discernment and observation displayed in his History of England, merits respect for his modesty, and for the mass of materials which he has compiled and faithfully exhibited. He was a man of great amiableness of manners, and most unaffected simplicity, as the following anecdote will evince :—During his residence at Louth, in Lincolnshire, he used to ride every Sunday to his cure in the neighbourhood. One winter morning, a shoemaker's boy, carrying a pair of shoes to the same village where Echard was bound, overtook the parson, and bluntly asked him to take the shoes for him, and deliver them to the farmer for whom they were made. The good-natured pastor readily accepted the commission ; but afterwards thought proper to ride after the boy, and ask him what he should do with the shoes, if they did

not fit ? “ Why, then, measter,” says the other “ bring them back again.”

A gentleman once asked Mr. Echard, whether he was a Whig or a Tory ; to which he pertinently answered, “ I am an Historian.”

DR. SHEBBARE.

THIS writer, whose name and writings seem to be sinking undeservedly into oblivion, had great vigour of conception, and power of expression, though there appears a coarseness in his language. Dr. Johnson's admiration of him was very natural, for there was a strong similarity in their sentiments and in their manners. He was a man of great pride, very overbearing in his temper, and tenacious of his own opinions. Yet his company was greatly courted, as he was extremely communicative, though not so much from any inclination of giving pleasure or information to others, as to gratify his own vanity. His Letters on the English Nation,

tion, under the fictitious name of Angeloni, will richly repay the perusal. There is great originality and much entertainment in them. His Vindication of Admiral Byng is a strong performance, and throws great odium upon those who suffered that unfortunate man to fall, to screen themselves. He was originally an apothecary, then a chemist; and underwent great changes of fortune.

THOMAS NEWTON, BISHOP OF BRISTOL.

THIS ingenious and pious prelate had not a great depth of learning, but he made up for it by a great extent of reading. He condensed all that he had read on the prophecies into an excellent treatise. Though strictly orthodox, and firmly attached to the church, of which he was certainly a brilliant ornament, he yet entertained a notion which few orthodox men are willing to encourage, and that was the everlasting mercy of God to all mankind, exhibited in the ultimate salvation or deliverance of them from the bonds of misery, and the power of corruption. The view of a final restoration of universal happiness by the Saviour of the world, opened his mind to a repugnance to the horrid notion which dooms a considerable part of the rational creation to eternal punishment, in the regions of darkness and despair. The Reverend Mr. Thomas Broughton, vicar of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, and author of a Dictionary of all Religions, in folio, had the honour of convincing the good bishop of the weak foundation on which that merciless doctrine has been built; for this amiable prelate made it his constant practice to pay frequent and familiar visits to all his clergy, and endeared himself greatly to them. W.

An exact Copy of a curious original Letter from Mr. John Flamsteed, the first Astronomer-Royal, at the Observatory of Flamsteed-House, in Greenwich Park, to Sir Jonas Moore, Kt. the then Surveyor-General of the Ordnance.

" For Sr Jonas Moore at
ye Tower, these."

" The Observatory, Feb. 8, 1676."

" Sr,

I have examined the meane motions y^u suspected erroneous and find them accurate to sixths, and farther more needlesse since ye error of one sixth in a day will not amount to more y^u ye 20th p^t of a third, in 1800 years which is as far back as any obseruations of the sun extend: You will therefore

find some other cause of the fault in yr calculation; for mine gives the suns return to his apoge or the circle of meane anomaly to be compleated in 365^{days} 06^h 09^m 17^s 29ⁱⁱ 44^{iv}, as y^u may see by this proofer."

" The earths meane diurnall motion is
59' 08" 19" 43^{iv} 47^v 21^{vii}

Diurnal recessse of ye	-	8	12	48	47
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Therefore ye earths diurnall motion of Anomaly is	-	59' 08 11	30	58	34
---	---	-----------	----	----	----

And in 60 days	1° 29' 08" 11"	30"	58 ^{iv}	34 ^v
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in 120 —	3	28	16	23	01	57	08
240 —	7	26	32	46	03	54	16
360 --- 11	24	49	09	05	51	24	
5 dayes —	4	55	40	57	34	53	
6 hours —	—	14	47	02	52	45	
9 min. —	—	—	22	10	34	19	
17 sec —	—	—	—	41	53	24	
29 thirds —	—	—	—	—	1	11	27
44 fourthes —	—	—	—	—	—	1	48
summe	12	00	00	00	00	00	00

" Therefore ye sidereall yeare is as aboue stated; the worke has beeene a little troublesome to me to cleare from my old papers & I thinke I might haue easier wrought it anew in decimalls then haue beeene at the labor I haue to state it thus. I haue repeated the worke from my papers at large that y^u might be fully satisfied of it & p^haps it may be usefull to preuent mistakes in your owne I haue no more to adde but that I thinke I shall waite upon y^u againe on Tuesday morning next in the meane time I wish y^u all health & happiness & rest y^r humble seruant

" JOHN FLAMSTEED.

" The waterman that brings this one Jeremy Holt is hee whom I tould y^u of at the Tower Mr Stevens Mr Gammon & some others haue spoken to me much in his commendations for a sober and discreet fellow & one y^r will be uery diligent; he was desirous to waite upon y^u and I gaue him this opportunity."

The above Sir Jonas Moore, from being simply a country schoolmaster in Yorkshire, by his merit, and the king's favour, for whom he rendered services in that county, rose to high rank, and enjoyed several posts of honour under the crown, and among others, that of Surveyor-General of the Ordnance; in which situation he was of great service to literature and to learned men; and was the means of establishing the Royal Observatory, and placing his friend Mr. Flamsteed there as the first Astronomer Royal.

J. N.

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

TO THE

LITERARY HISTORY OF THE PRESENT PERIOD.

[TO BE CONTINUED OCCASIONALLY.]

AS we mean to dedicate a special article of our Miscellany to the general History of Letters, both domestic and foreign, we will, in this Number, give, by way of *Preliminary*, a concise retrospective view of the state of learning in Europe, since the commencement of the present century.

In comparing the present century with those immediately preceding, it will not be found, that so much has been done toward the improvement of science, as may be imagined by superficial observers, and might have been expected from progressive experience. The philologists, orators, poets, historians, and novellists, of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, were by no means inferior, and were in some respects superior, to those of the eighteenth. In mixed mathematics, particularly in astronomy, some valuable, at least curious discoveries have been made, from the great improvement of telescopes, and other instruments of observation. Mechanics have been carried to a much greater degree of perfection; and natural and experimental philosophy have acquired a certitude and accuracy, beyond what they had in any prior period: pharmacy has also been purified from the dregs of former times; anatomy and chirurgery have been eagerly and successfully cultivated; and the principles of the healing art have been simplified and better arranged.

Such are the parts of science, with respect to which our age can boast some sort of superiority: for, with regard to the fine arts, as they are termed, we apprehend they are rather languishing than acquiring vigour. A partial or local improvement, in some of them, may have taken place, and has, no doubt, taken place in this nation; but we greatly mistake, if on the whole, they have not lost more than they have gained.

Whether in political, moral, or religious knowledge, we are a whit wiser than our forefathers, appears to us a problem, that may be disputed with

equal plausibility on both sides of the question. It is true, the general principles of social compacts and civil institutions have been more thoroughly canvassed, and perhaps better understood; the natural rights of man more clearly ascertained and more strongly asserted; the various sorts of government better discriminated and more impartially appraised; but how far these fine theories are compatible with practice, or are likely to be attended with permanent blessings to society, is yet to be seen.

New systems of ethics have likewise been created, and bases of various forms have been contrived for the statue of Virtue; yet we think it must be confessed, that the goddess is not more sincerely worshipped, nor her votaries more numerous, than in the days of our predecessors; we fear the reverse is true.

As to theology, or the science of religion, it has certainly undergone some considerable changes within these fifty years, and is apparently on the eve of still greater alterations: but whether these alterations will produce a more genuine religion, that is, a more exalted idea of the Supreme Being, a greater respect for his behests, and a more humble submission to his will; in short, a more fervent and disinterested piety, seems to us highly problematical: Time, the greatest instructor, will show how far our mistrust is grounded.

One thing, however, may be advanced as true: religion in general wears a more amiable face; intolerance is no more her inseparable companion; and mankind seem willing to go to heaven, without jostling one another on the road. The principles of religion too have been more minutely examined; many inveterate prejudices exploded; revelation grounded upon more rational motives of credibility; a number of various corruptions eliminated from the sacred volumes with which the hand of time had tarnished them; and biblical criticism established on such principles, and guided by such rules, as must necessarily tend to its perfection.

This, therefore, is all well: yet if all this conduce not to meliorate the heart of man, to inspire him with a greater degree of *the love of God and of his neighbour*; what will religion profit by it?

On the other hand, it is but too true, that irreligion has made great strides during the same period. The metaphysics of Hume, the eloquence of Bollingbroke, the learning of Freret, the wit of Voltaire, and the fascinating logic of Rousseau (not to mention a numerous, but less formidable, tribe of inferior writers) have inflicted severe wounds on Christianity, and spread the contagion of Infidelity far and wide: even Atheism, who before lurked in corners, and covered his face with a deceitful veil, has recently shown himself without disguise; and *Hammonds* and *Dantons* have appeared, who boldly dared the DEITY to punish them for disbelieving his existence.—And this is called *The Age of Reason!*

Having thus given a short view of the present state of literature in general, we will next, in as few words as possible, and we flatter ourselves with strict distributive justice, assign to the different nations of Europe their respective shares; and begin by

ITALY.

Every one knows that, on the revival of letters, Italy was their first foster-mother; and the golden age of LEO will ever be accounted a remarkable æra in the history of human knowledge. For a century, at least, it retained its superiority; and although it has since been visibly sinking in the public scale, yet it still holds a considerable rank in every branch of science, where religion is not directly or indirectly concerned. It has produced excellent historians, most ingenious poets, and some tolerable orators; it has greatly embellished its fine melodious language, and was the first modern nation that had a good Lexicon. In mathematics and experimental philosophy, it is not below its neighbours; and it has always been deemed the best school for music, painting, and sculpture. Divinity alone (and philosophy in as far as it is connected with divinity) has been bound in fetters by monachism, superstition, and inquisitorial tribunals. But these fetters will probably soon be shaken off by that ingenious people: God grant they may not at the same time shake off Religion

herself, under the idea that she had forged their chains: this is no uncommon process in national revolutions. Some change in the religious creed of Italy appears to be inevitable. The scriptures are more generally studied, and have been translated into the vulgar tongue; the bishops of particular dioceses, supported by their respective sovereigns, begin to exercise a jurisdiction independently of Rome; papal infallibility is scoffed every where, save in the Papal territories, and even there feebly defended, perhaps not believed; superstitious rites and usages are daily diminishing, and freedom of thought pervades all ranks of men who have had any sort of liberal education. What may we not augur from such symptoms?

SPAIN and PORTUGAL.

Although these nations have, for almost two centuries, made very little figure in the field of science, it is not hence to be concluded that this has been owing to want of capacity: they are naturally a thinking and acute people, and, in the sixteenth century, held a respectable rank among the nations of Europe; but here the inquisition, more rigid and bloody than that of Italy, has stifled every spark of genius that has come within its reach, and plunged the inhabitants into an ignorance hardly to be credited. The time, however, seems to approach, when that diabolical tribunal *must* be abolished; and, to do justice to this and the last reign, its power has already been greatly curtailed: still, however, it has power enough to prevent a general dissemination of knowledge; and few, comparatively, are the works of value that have yet been written on the other side of the Pyrenées. Yet the Spanish language seems peculiarly formed for fine composition, whether in prose or verse; and they have now a national Dictionary that vies with any in Europe.

FRANCE.

Unhappy France! Thou wast once a nation of learned men. Although thou didst not embrace the muses so early as thy southern neighbour, thou receivedst them with not less tenderness, and cultivatedst them with more industry. In what species of writing (Epic poetry excepted) didst thou not excel? What art or science didst thou not improve and adorn? What charms didst thou not give to one of the most barbarous tongues?

tongues in the universe? Thy Gothic jargon, embellished by the skill of thy grammarians and orators, became the language of the world, and the vehicle of knowledge, to the ends of the earth. "Ah! how are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of learning perished!"

Reader, we mean not, by this apostrophe, to debase the French nation, nor to throw any slur upon their late exertions to shake off the yoke of despotism, and vindicate their just rights; we are only penetrated with sorrow and regret, that the vindication of those rights should be attended with consequences so fatal to LEARNING, and, we fear, to liberty itself, at least for a long portion of time. But is France at present without learned men? are the arts and sciences there totally neglected? Neither the one nor the other! But, alas! the number of truly learned men in France, at this moment, are like the gleanings of the field: old age, exile, or the guillotine, has swept the great harvest away! and it will be yet a long, long winter before such another crop can appear. The arts and sciences are not altogether extinct; but they shed only a faint light; the rays of which serve chiefly to show what Vandalic devastation has been made among their best productions. Let us turn our eyes from so dismal a prospect, and cherish a hope, that the genius of France may yet trim his withered bays, and rise to his former renown.

GERMANY, HOLLAND, &c.

A petulant French Jesuit once made it a question, Whether a German were capable of wit? And not less petulant was the observation of an Englishman, that the Dutch carried their genius in their backs. Odious assertions! The German Luther had at least as much wit as Father Bohours; and the Colloquies of Erasmus, of Rotterdam, contain more Attic humour than can be collected from the whole mass of English writers, from Chaucer to Swift.

That the French, a vain and jealous nation should contemn German literature, is not much to be wondered. They have sometimes affected to despise their masters, the Italians. But that we, a Saxon colony, should join in the affront, is certainly a matter of surprise. The truth is, that, although the German be the parent of our own tongue, or at least a sister-dialect, we have not,

until very lately, paid any attention to German books, unless they were written in Latin. Yet Germany has, in the course of the present century, produced as many good works, in German, as any country in the world. We know not even if it be saying too much, to affirm, that more German books are annually published than in one half of the world besides: they are not all excellent, to be sure, but most of them are good, and few intollerable; and there is not a branch of science which is not highly cultivated, especially in the Protestant universities. Formerly, the Germans wrote in various dialects, as numerous as their various provinces; and still there are shades of difference in the languages of Berlin, Leipsic, and Vienna. But having now an excellent Lexicon, and several good Grammars, they seem to aim at some sort of uniformity, both in style and phraseology. Their poetry is greatly improved, and every day improving. In novel-writing, they are more natural than we. Of their oratory we cannot say so much. In mathematics, natural history, physic, experimental philosophy, they are second to none. In rational theology, they have made great progress; and in biblical criticism, hold the very first rank.

What we have said of Germany is more or less applicable to Holland, Sweden, Denmark, and the other northern regions that border on Germany, and speak Teutonic dialects. To them the German has been chiefly the great vehicle of knowledge, which they have generally transfused into their own tongues: but, in Sweden, of late, many very learned men have arisen, who, in philology, and every species of critical knowledge, are not inferior to the Germans; and they have one of the best translations of the Bible that have been made into modern languages.

The literature of Holland is, in some measure, peculiar to itself. Although their language be a German dialect, it has not been much written in; their principal works are in Latin or French. This latter was imported by the French refugees, who fled from the persecution of Louis XIV, and, through them, soon became familiar to the Dutch themselves: almost as many French works have issued from the presses of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and the Hague, as from those of Paris and Lyons. We speak not at all of the Netherlands, because we know no works of any great merit

merit in the Flemish dialect. It has, for many years, been giving place to the French, which now bids fair to extinguish it. The language of Lisle is become the language of Brussels; and, in half a century more, perhaps, there will be no other dialect spoken on this side the Rhine.

It might be expected that we should say something of Polish and Russian literature: but we confess we are little acquainted with either, except through the medium of German Reviews. We know only that the Russian language has been improved in latter times, and is said to be copious and harmonious: if any works of great importance shall appear in it, we will endeavour to get an account of them. We have seen some Polish publications, but their number is not great; and now, we imagine, that unfortunate nation will be taught to lisp in the respective languages of its new masters.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Having thus made the *grand tour* as rapidly as most of our modern travellers, we return with pleasure to our native soil; and are happy in the thought that it has not been less productive of every sort of knowledge, than climes that enjoy a warmer sun. Montesquieu was wont to say, "That England was a country to think in;" and this concession from a French writer is no small eulogy. In fact, we are a thinking, more than an ingenious, nation: we have seldom been guilty of invention; but we are bold and persevering imitators, and have generally perfected what had been invented by others: of this our various manufactures are a sensible and striking proof. "*Vos machines sont mieux montées,*" said to us an intelligent Frenchman, whom we met some years ago at Birmingham; and this is pure truth. The employers of our artists spare no cost; and our artists, patient and well paid, leave nothing unfinished in their various operations, from the mill that grinds the sugar-cane, to the screw that draws a cork. Hence the great demand for our wares all over the globe.

If our learning and science had but kept pace with our mechanics, we should have been the most learned and enlightened people under the sun: as it is, we have no reason to blush. Let us see what we have done in the lapse of a hundred years.

In the first place, we have considerably polished, and, at the same time,

perhaps, enervated our language; we write more grammatically, but not more forcibly nor eloquently; we have a good Dictionary of our language, but far from being a perfect one, or even equal to those of some other nations, though we are sometimes apt to boast the contrary. Its defects are great and numerous: and we cannot but lament, that a gentleman*, who has long laboured to improve it, and supply its deficiencies, has not met with that encouragement to which he had a claim; and without which he could not carry on so expensive an undertaking.

On oratory and elocution, several useful tracts and lectures have appeared, but there is very little new in them. Dr. Campbell's *Philosophy of Rhetoric*, and Mr. J. Walker's *Melody of Speaking delineated*, are the only works of the kind that possess originality; yet they have been little read.

History has had a better fate. We have many good historians; but Hume shines among them like the moon among inferior stars.

From history to novels, the transition is short: and here, if number prevail, we are invincible. Since the fertile pen of Richardson poured forth its sentimental torrent, a thousand streamlets have emulated its course, and purled away, with an uniform similarity, through the enchanted plains.

An inundation of *pretty* poetry has also deluged the land: but the grand, the sublime, the Shakespearean, and the Miltonic, seem beyond the grasp of modern bards. Two or three good comedies have graced the stage; but the Tragic Muse has been in a deep lethargy for many years.

Natural history and experimental philosophy, more especially botany and chemistry, have made great progress among us; but the Swedes and Germans led the way.

The chair of Newton has not been refilled; and this is no matter of astonishment, since academical honours have been made the reward and badge of a party.

Politics have been cultivated with uncommon ardour, especially since the French Revolution; and some new ingenious systems have been broached, which have not yet received the sanction of public approbation. We avoid men-

* Mr. Herbert Croft.

tioning

tioning names, that we may avoid the imputation of partiality.

In theology, a wonderful revolution has happened in this country. The principles of Calvin, which were once common to Presbyterians and Episcopallians, are now exploded by both; and Arminianism has had a complete triumph over the gloomy system of Gomarus.—There were some few Socinians in the days of Charles II, and in every succeeding reign; but they were individuals, who had no public conventicles, nor ostensible communion. At present, they are a numerous and respectable body; and are daily increasing. The acrimonious opposition, which they have met from the established church, and the obstinate refusal of government to repeal the *test* and *corporation* acts, have not a little contributed to this increase. *Sanguis martyrum semen sanctorum*, is an axiom that will always be found to be true; whatsoever be the principles of the persecuted—We say persecuted; because we are thoroughly convinced, that every sort of restraint, in matters merely religious, is a species of persecution; although it be not persecution unto death. This latter, indeed, is happily abolished; or, at least, gone gradually into disuse.—We no longer hang a Popish priest for saying mass; nor bore the tongue of an Unitarian with a hot iron, for denying the trinity. The times will not bear such severities; yet we have no hesitation in asserting, that as long as a single Briton is, on account of his religious tenets, excluded from any place which he is capable of filling, genuine liberty he does not enjoy.—To oblige men, by penal laws, to think alike, is to renew the bed of Procrustes; which philosophy ought to have broken in pieces for ever.—Difference in opinion is as natural as difference in complexion; and one may be as justly persecuted for being black, brown, or fair, as for being of this or that religious persuasion.—Theological knowledge is promoted by divisions; every party exert their talents and sagacity, to seek and draw, from the common arsenal of controversy, arms to support their own cause; and from the clash of arms meeting arms, some sparks of unquestionable truth are now and then elicited.—In one point of divinity, we seem almost agreed, namely, that the scriptures, our common rule of faith, have not been handed down to us in

their original purity; and both the orthodox and dissenter have acknowledged the expediency of correcting them by the canons of sound criticism.—The collation of the MSS of the New Testament, by Mills, and of the Old Testament, by Kennicott, does honour to the University of Oxford; and, from the same seminary of learning, we expect, with avidity, a collation of the MSS. of the most ancient and valuable Greek version, known by the name of *Septuagint*. No doubt, the other more ancient versions, particularly the Syriac and Latin Vulgate, will, in time, be also collated; and each of these collations will contribute to remove from the sacred Books, the grubs and straws that have stuck to their amber, in the course of time.

But, if Biblical criticism have received great improvement, we cannot say so much for polemic and didactic theology. Our modern controversialists have generally forgotten the rules of good breeding, and our preachers the rules of Christian charity. The pulpit is now more than a *drum ecclesiastic*; it is a military drum in the strictest sense; and the ministers of the gospel of peace, beat the war-alarm with uncommon vehemence.—May God, in his mercy, forgive, and bring them back to their clerical duty!

The fine arts have flourished in England since the commencement of this century; and particularly since the institution of the Royal Academy. The late President, both by precept and example, inspired our painters with a spirit of emulation, which has produced as many good artists, as, perhaps, any other nation, during the same period. We have also sculptors, who do honour to the nation; and our engravers are equal to any that France or Italy have produced.

At present, there is a dearth of important publications; but this, we trust, like the dearth of provisions, is only a temporary evil. The fierce Bellona has ever been at variance with the gentle Muses; although she has often been the subject of their song.—But the flame of war cannot rage for ever; and learning and science must again revive in the fostering lap of peace. Ah! may she soon unfold that lap, and may science and learning acquire new vigour in her warm embraces!

MONTHLY EXTRACTS

FROM

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The mode in which this article is composed, and is intended to be continued, has been to arrange, under separate heads, such matter in the current publications as appears most important in the way of curious, useful, and original information. The general merit of the works themselves enters into no part of our consideration. It is sufficient that the matter extracted be, in our judgment, authentic and valuable.

It will readily be seen that this plan necessarily excludes any notice of works addressed rather to the fancy than the understanding, or which consist of argumentative discussions on common and well-known topics.

HISTORY

AND

BIOGRAPHY.

Anecdotes of the PRINCE ROYAL of DENMARK, from "Letters written in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark," by Mrs. Wollastoncraft.

" IN the year 1788, he travelled through Norway; and acts of mercy gave dignity to the parade, and interest to the joy, his presence inspired. At this town he pardoned a girl condemned to die for murdering an illegitimate child, a crime seldom committed in this country. She is since married, and become the careful mother of a family. This might be given as an instance, that a desperate act is not always a proof of an incorrigible depravity of character; the only plausible excuse that has been brought forward to justify the infliction of capital punishments.

" I will relate two or three other anecdotes to you; for the truth of which I will not vouch, because the facts were not of sufficient consequence for me to take much pains to ascertain them; and, true or false, they evince that the people like to make a kind of mistress of their prince.

" An officer, mortally wounded at the ill-advised battle of Quistram, desired to speak with the prince; and, with his dying breath, earnestly recommended to his care a young woman of Christiana, to whom he was engaged. When the prince returned there, a ball was given by the chief inhabitants. He inquired whether this unfortunate girl was invited, and requested that she might, though of the second class. The girl came; she was pretty; and finding herself amongst her superiors, bashfully sat

down as near the door as possible, nobody taking notice of her. Shortly after, the prince entering, immediately enquired for her, and asked her to dance, to the mortification of the rich dames. After it was over, he handed her to the top of the room, and placing himself by her, spoke of the loss she had sustained, with tenderness, promising to provide for any one she should marry—as the story goes. She is since married, and he has not forgotten his promise.

" A little girl, during the same expedition, in Sweden, who informed him that the logs of a bridge were cut underneath, was taken by his orders to Christiana, and put to school at his expence.

" There is a house of correction at Christiana for trifling misdemeanors, where the women are confined to labour and imprisonment even for life. The state of the prisoners was represented to the prince; in consequence of which, he visited the arsenal and house of correction. The slaves at the arsenal were loaded with irons of great weight; he ordered them to be lightened as much as possible.

" The people in the house of correction were commanded not to speak to him; but four women, condemned to remain there for life, got into the passage, and fell at his feet. He granted them a pardon; and inquiring respecting the treatment of the prisoners, he was informed that they were frequently whipped going in, and going out; and for any fault, at the discretion of the inspectors. This custom he humanely abolished; though some of the principal inhabitants, whose situation in life had raised them above the temptation of stealing, were of opinion, that these chastisements were necessary and wholesome.

" In short, every thing seems to announce

nounce that the prince really cherishes the laudable ambition of fulfilling the duties of his station. This ambition is cherished and directed by the count Bernstorff, the prime minister of Denmark, who is universally celebrated for his abilities and virtue."

LAWs, CUSTOMS,
AND
MANNERS OF NATIONS.

CHARACTER of the SWEDES, from the Letters of Mrs. Wollstonecraft.

"THE Swedes pique themselves on their politeness; but far from being the polish of a cultivated mind, it consists merely of tiresome forms and ceremonies. So far indeed from entering immediately into your character, and making you feel instantly at your ease, like the well-bred French, their over-acted civility is a continual restraint on all your actions. The sort of superiority which a fortune gives when there is no superiority of education, excepting what consists in the observance of senseless forms, has a contrary effect than was intended; so that I could not help reckoning the peasantry the politest people of Sweden, who only aiming at pleasing you, never think of being admired for their behaviour.

"Their tables, like their compliments, seem equally a caricature of the French. The dishes are composed, as well as their's, of a variety of mixtures to destroy the native taste of the food, without being as relishing. Spices and sugar are put into every thing, even into the bread; and the only way that I can account for their partiality to high-seasoned dishes, is the constant use of salted provisions. Necessity obliges them to lay up a store of dried fish, and salted meat, for the winter; and in summer, fresh meat and fish taste insipid after them. To which may be added, the constant use of spirits. Every day, before dinner and supper, even whilst the dishes are cooling on the table, men and women repair to a side-table, and, to obtain an appetite, eat bread and butter, cheese, raw salmon, or anchovies, drinking a glass of brandy. Salt fish or meat then immediately follows, to give a farther whet to the stomach. As the dinner advances—pardon me for taking up a few minutes to describe what, alas! has de-

tained me two or three hours on the stretch observing—dish after dish is changed, in endless rotation, and handed round with solemn pace to each guest: but should you happen not to like the first dishes, which was often my case, it is a gross breach of politeness to ask for part of any other till its turn comes."

POLITICS.

THE most important political pamphlet published this year, is that of Mr. Morgan, entitled, *Facts, addressed to the serious Attention of the People of Great-Britain*; in which he draws a comparison between the expences of the present and the American war, investigates the loans made by the present minister, gives an accurate statement of the national debt, and points out the disadvantages attendant on the mode of conducting the sinking fund. The chief points endeavoured to be proved in this work, are, that the present minister has been more expensive to the nation than any of his predecessors; that, by his mode of conducting the sinking fund, the public has lost considerable sums, which might have been saved with the greatest ease. Having received a communication on this subject from a correspondent, we shall refer to that for some of the facts contained in this work.

ON THE NATIONAL DEBT.

THE most celebrated philosophers have prognosticated the ruin of the country from our national debt, and have, as yet, been happily disappointed: but the example of a neighbouring nation is a sufficient proof to us, that there is a period, when, from the weight of debt and the want of resources, any existing government may be inevitably destroyed: such an example naturally alarms every true lover of his country. We do not seem to be at present in any great danger, yet it is certain, that every year may bring us nearer to it; and without great wisdom, we may, like the French, find ourselves, on a sudden, on the brink of a precipice. An impartial examination of the finances of the country must be therefore a thing much to be desired; and the critical state of the times seems to call loudly for it from authority. It is not difficult, indeed, to make such a subject intelligible to every one; for numbers do not admit of uncertainty: but, on the other hand,

hand, nothing is more easy than to introduce confusion by want of order and precision.

What, then, is the amount of the national debt? It is the interest of the minister to diminish, of his opponents to magnify it, of truth to state the fact in intelligible terms. The fact, then, is, that the sum of money required to pay off the national debt, varies with the value of money for each day; and as the debt consists in stocks of different kinds, the only way of ascertaining the real amount of the debt, is to bring all these stocks to some common standard, from which it will be very easy to find the amount of the debt on any alteration in the value of money. This has been done by Mr. Morgan, in his *Facts, addressed to the serious Attention of the People of Great Britain*; and he has calculated the amount of the debt, on the supposition that, by purchasing in the three per cents. the interest made of the money is 4l. 13s. 6d. per cent. when the three per cents. consols are 66½; from whence its amount on any change in the stocks is easily ascertained. According to this rate, the amount of the debt in 1796, supposing it converted into three per cents. was 410,944,685l.; in 1786, it was 289,155,920l. consequently, an addition has been made to the national debt, since the year 1786, of 121,788,765l.

In whatever estimation the talents of Mr. Pitt may have been held as a minister, in other respects, it has generally been presumed, that in the conduct of the finances of this country, he has been without a rival. Mr. Morgan, whose abilities in calculation are acknowledged by the confidence of all parties, in the decisions made by him on questions of annuities, interest, and similar subjects, denies to the minister any right to this public opinion. It is evident, he says, that the debt has been increased by him, in a much greater proportion than by any former minister; but this may be attributed to the particular circumstances of the times. An important enquiry seems to be, whether he made that advantage of the sinking fund, which it was calculated to produce. Since the year 1786, seventeen millions and a quarter of the three per cents. have been redeemed, "that is, the public debts have accumulated in three years to a sum which is seven times greater than the sum paid off in ten years; and compared with the whole amount of the debt at this present time, the stock

redeemed, is to the whole stock, in the proportion of one to twenty-four, nearly."

Now "the purchases, with the exception of a few thousands, have always been made by the commissioners in the three per cents." by which means, it is asserted, by Mr. Morgan, "though a larger capital appears to be redeemed, the reduction of the debt is, in reality, retarded." This will be easily understood by any one who considers the relative value of the stocks during the last ten years. Suppose the three per cents. to be at 70, and the four per cents. at 84, money is then improved in the one at 4l. 5s. 9d. and in the other at 4l. 15. 3d. per cent. If a million a year were laid out annually for twenty-six years, the sum allotted for the sinking fund in the three per cents. at 70, and another million in the four cents. at 84, the capital redeemed in the former will be 65,918,000l. and in the latter 58,798,000l. In the eyes of an inaccurate calculator, the minister will appear to do best, by purchasing in the former stock, which mode will, however, put the nation to much the greatest expence; for the real value of the sum redeemed in the three per cents. is only 46,142,500l. and its interest 1,977,540l. and the real value of the sum in the four per cents. is 49,390,200l. and its interest 2,351,920l. Consequently, by purchasing in the four per cents., at the end of twenty-six years, the nation would have gained an annual interest of 374,380l. above what it would have gained by purchasing in the three per cents. But the proportion between the three and four per cents. has, during the last ten years, been much less than that of 84 to 70. In 1792, the three per cents. were at 96, and the four per cents. only at 102; and, consequently, the loss of the nation by every purchase in the three per cents. was increased.

It is difficult, without having every purchase made by the commissioners before one's eyes, to state exactly the loss of the nation, by the injudicious mode of purchasing in the three per cents. Many do not scruple to say that the whole management of the sinking fund has been a delusion; at any rate, it seems evident, that an opportunity has been lost of relieving the nation from a great part of its debt. When the three per cents. were at 96, by adding 6l. to each 100 in the three per cents. the holders of both stocks might have been placed exactly in the same situation; and, at

the end of seven years, the public would have been put into possession of a revenue of 1 per cent. or 32,750,000l. or 327,500l. a year. "The value of this annuity for ever, after the expiration of the above sum, and reckoning interest at four per cent. (which is more than could have been made of money in 1792) is 6,222,500l. It is evident, therefore," says Mr. Morgan, "that, by a neglect the most inexcusable, the minister has lost to the public, in this single instance, above six millions."

In the borrowing of money, according to Mr. Morgan's account, Mr. Pitt has not been more successful. In the four first years of the American war, 1776, 1777, 1778, and 1779, Lord North received for a capital of 20,150,000l. in the stocks, 14,767,500l.; for a capital of 70,100,000l. Mr. Pitt has received, in the years 1793, 1794, 1795, 47,421,000l. During the whole course of the American war, Lord North funded 73,400,000l. in the three and four per cents. for which 47,968,000l. was advanced: from this, Mr. Morgan concludes, that the minister has not, in the four first years of the present war, borrowed money on much better terms than Lord North did during the whole term of the American war. How far the debt may be increased by the continuance of the war, no one can ascertain; yet it is probable that it may receive considerable additions, without bringing us to that inevitable ruin which has been so often prognosticated on this subject. Whence, then, arise the mistakes of former philosophers? From a simple cause: they considered the income of the nation as stationary, while the debt was increasing; and it is obvious to common sense, that, if this were really the case, the nation, at a period easily to be assigned by them, would inevitably be ruined. Thus, if a man has an estate of a thousand a year, on which he borrows annually a thousand pound, at the rate of five per cent. we see clearly that, at the end of twenty years, the income of his estate will just suffice to pay the interest of his debt: but if, during this period, he should improve his estate, so that at the end of twenty years he should make it worth two thousand a year, instead of being ruined at the end of that time, he will be exactly in the same situation in which he was when he first began to borrow, though the country will receive

considerable benefit from his labours: had he not borrowed any thing, he would, at the end of twenty years, have had a clear income of two thousand a year; but, from his imprudence, his income is not in the least increased. If he should be stimulated to make still greater exertions, and should make his estate worth three thousand a year, he will be able, notwithstanding the debt on his estate, to live at double the expence which his estate afforded on his first beginning to borrow.

Thus it is with England; the debt has been considerably increased, but the income of the country has at the same time been considerably increased, and this income has increased in a much greater proportion than the debt; consequently, though the nation is so much impoverished by its debt, that it is incapable of the exertions which, if not incumbered by such a weight, it could have made, still it may be much richer than when it first began to borrow; and instead of attempting to fix the period when the nation is to be ruined, we can only say in general, that this must inevitably take place at such a time, when the debt remaining the same, and the exertion decreasing, the difference between the debt and income decreases very fast, and consequently poverty ensues; or when the exertions being the same, the debt increases so fast as to overpower them; or when both exertion and debt increasing, the latter increases in a much greater proportion than the former. The annual income of the nation has lately been calculated at fifty millions: consequently, if it remains the same, and the debt should be increased a few hundred millions more, the nation, though many individuals must necessarily be deprived of several comforts which they now enjoy, can support itself; but it should be remembered, that, by every increase in the debt of the nation, individuals are placed in a worse situation than they would otherwise have been; and it is to be apprehended, that if, from circumstances, either at home or abroad, the exertions of the nation should receive only a temporary suspension, the necessary effects of it on the debt, and the income derived by its interest to individuals, might occasion such a convulsion in the state, as all good men must deprecate, and which might bring on disorder, perhaps, not to be remedied.

POLITE LITERATURE AND CRITICISM.

SHAKSPEARE MSS.

As no late occurrence in the history of Domestic Literature has more excited curiosity than the present, we doubt not that we shall perform an acceptable service to our readers, by laying before them a statement of the most material part of the business, which we shall continue as new circumstances take place tending to its elucidation.

The following is a general account of Mr. Ireland's own publication, in which his discovery is presented to the world:

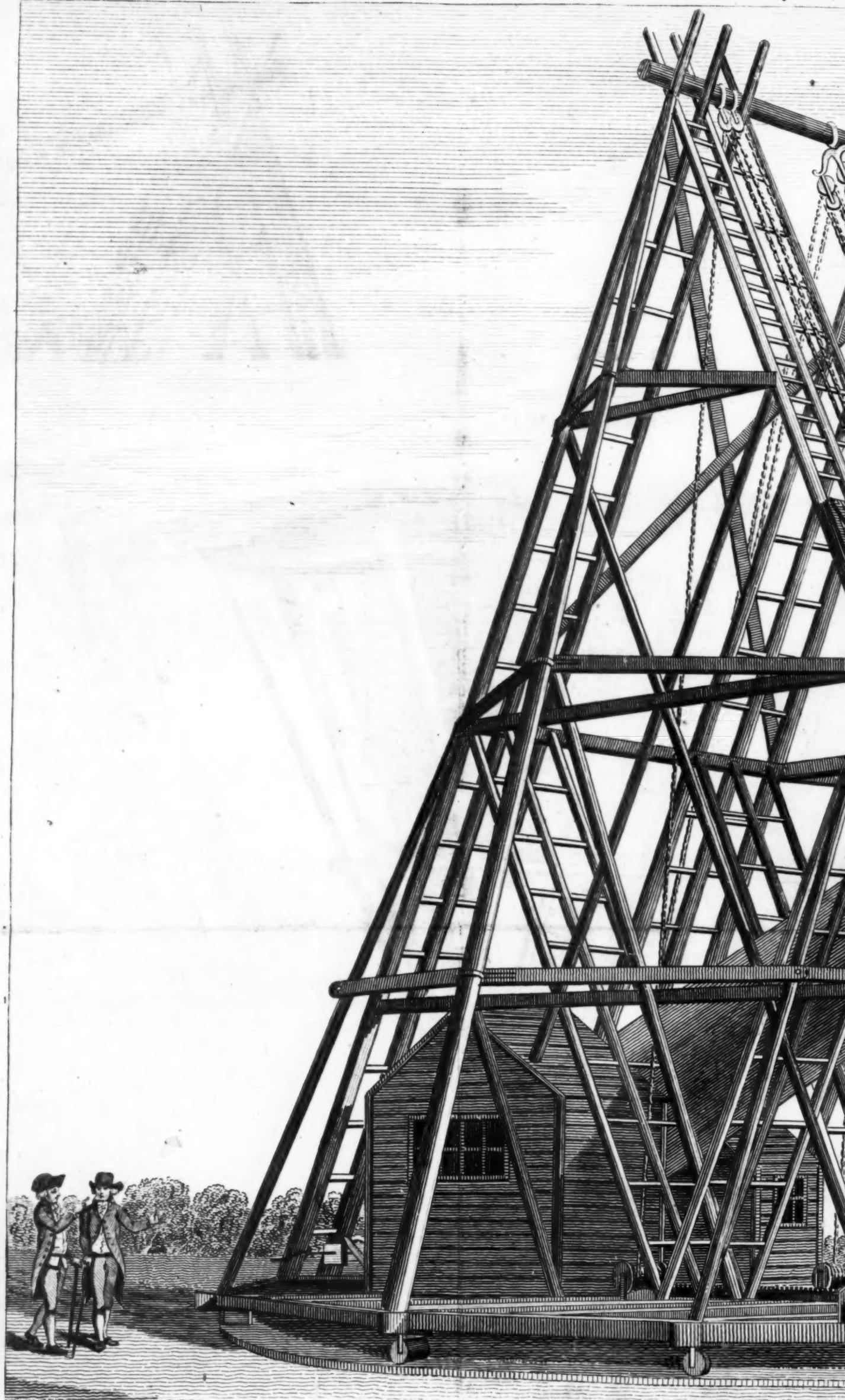
CRICISM and illustration have been so long and variously exercised on Shakspeare, by the labours of the most learned and penetrating writers of the British nation, that it seemed as if little more could be gathered on the subject, even in the way of explanation. Much less did any prospect remain, after such enquiries, that new matter would be found to throw additional light upon his character, or that unheard-of productions from his pen should be suddenly brought to view. And yet such is really the case, if credit is to be given to the authority of Mr. Ireland, the editor of this splendid volume, and to the papers which he has brought forward, as well as to those which remain in his possession. On a subject of this magnitude, it is natural for opinion to be suspended, and even for credulity itself to receive these pieces with double caution. Mr. Ireland certainly ought not to be offended at the jealousy with which critics behold these productions, at the inquisitiveness with which they conceive it right to examine them, and the enquiries which from thence they hold themselves authorised to put, concerning the means of their discovery, and the cause of their mysterious concealment. All this is natural, as it comes within the exact limits of critical justice. At the same time, it is but fair to let Mr. Ireland speak for himself. In his preface, he observes, that, "from the first moment of this discovery to the present hour, he has incessantly laboured, by every means in his power, to inform himself with respect to the validity of these interesting papers. Throughout this period, there has not been an ingenuous character, or disinterested individual in

"the circle of literature to whose critical eye he has not been earnest that the whole should be subjected. He has courted, he has even challenged the critical judgment of those who are best skilled in the poetry and phraseology of the times in which Shakspeare lived, as well as those whose profession or course of study has made them conversant with ancient deeds, writings, seals, and autographs. Wide and extensive as this range may appear, and it includes the scholar, the man of taste, the antiquarian, and the herald, his inquiries have not rested in the closet of the speculist; he has been equally anxious that the whole should be submitted to the practical experience of the mechanic, and be pronounced upon by the paper-maker, &c, as well as by the author. He has ever been desirous of placing them in any view, and under any light that could be thrown upon them; and he has, in consequence, the satisfaction of announcing to the public, that, as far as he has been able to collect the sentiments of the several classes of persons above referred to, they have unanimously testified in favour of their authenticity; and declared that, where there was such a mass of evidences, internal and external, it was impossible, amidst such various sources of detection, for the art of imitation to have hazarded so much without betraying itself; and, consequently, that these papers can be no other than the production of Shakspeare himself."

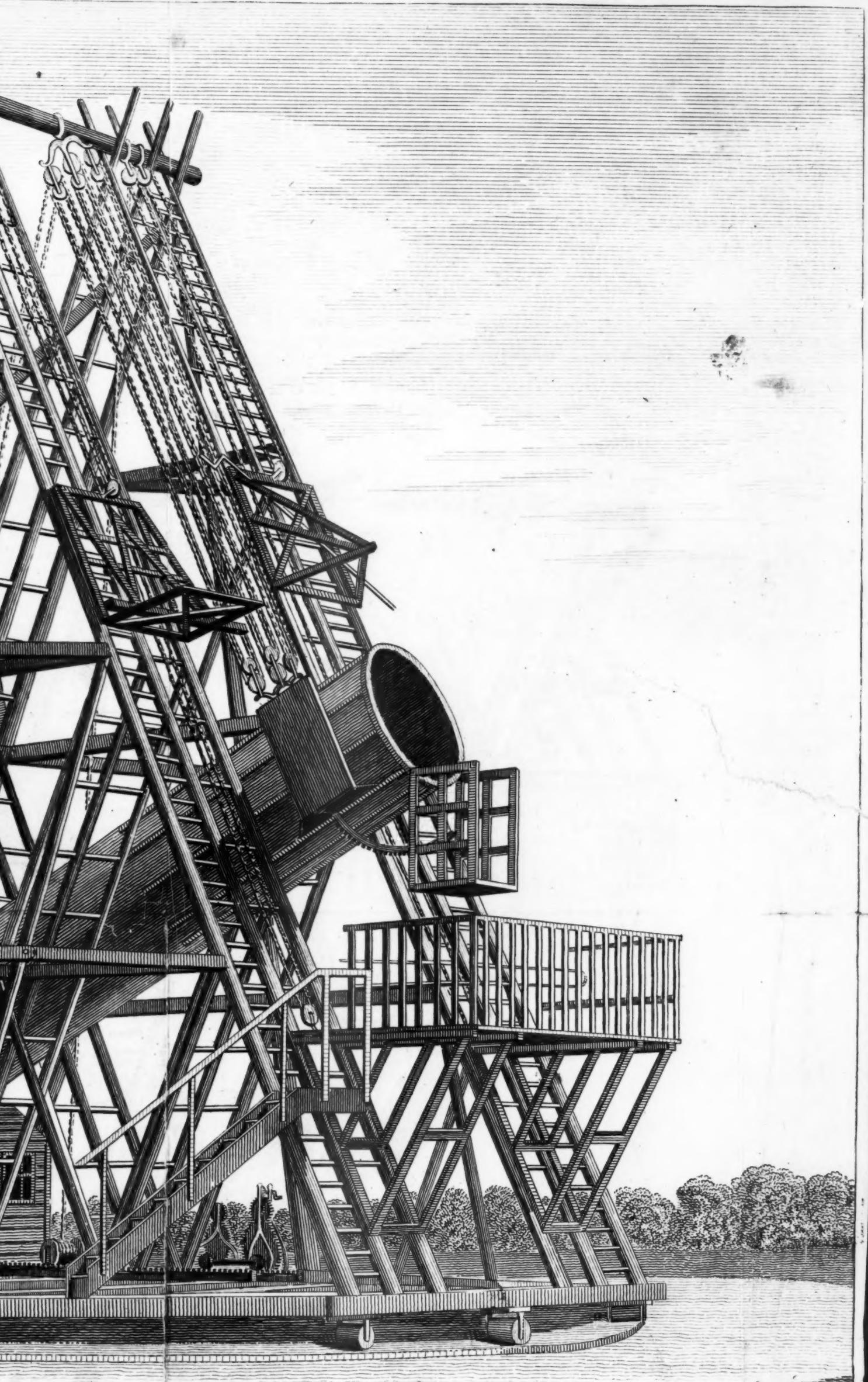
To the question of discovery, Mr. Ireland replies, that "he received them from his son, Samuel William Henry Ireland, a young man then under 19 years of age, by whom the discovery was accidentally made, at the house of a gentleman of considerable property. Amongst a mass of family papers, the contracts between Shakspeare, Lowine, and Condelle, and the lease granted by him and Heminge to Michael Fraser, which was first found, were discovered; and, soon afterwards, the deed of gift to William Henry Ireland (described as the friend of Shakspeare, in consequence of his having saved his life on the river Thames, when in extreme danger of being drowned) and also the deed of trust to John Heminge were discovered. In pursuing this search, he was so fortunate as to meet with some deeds very material to the interests of this gentle- man,



for the Monthly Me



VIEW OF HERSCHEL'S FORT



FORTY FOOT REFLECTING TELESCOPE.

J. Barlow sculp.



" man, and such as established, beyond all doubt, his title to a considerable property ; deeds of which this gentleman was as ignorant, as he was of his having in his possession any of the MSS. of Shakspere. In return for this service, added to the consideration that the young man bore the same name and arms with the person who saved the life of Shakspere, this gentleman promised him every thing relative to the present subject, that had been, or should be, found, either in town, or at his house in the country. At this house, the principal part of the papers, together with a great variety of books, containing his MS. notes, and three MS. plays, with part of another, were discovered."

Here follows the enquiry. " Who the gentleman is from whom these papers have been obtained ?" To this Mr. Ireland answers, that, " when he applied to the original possessor of the papers for permission to print them, it was not obtained but under the strongest injunction that his name should not appear. This injunction, has throughout all the stage of this business, been uniformly declared ; and as this gentleman has dealt most liberally with the editor, he can confidently say, that in his turn, he has, with equal openness and candour, conducted himself towards the public, to whom, immediately upon every communication made, every thing has been submitted, without reserve."

Mr. Ireland further informs the public, that (besides the play of *Vortigern*, now preparing for representation at Drury-Lane theatre) another, and more interesting historical play has been discovered amongst the other papers in the hand-writing of Shakspere ; and that this will, in due time, be laid before the public.

He likewise acquaints them, that " he is in possession of a great part of Shakspere's library, in which are many books, with notes in his own hand, and those of a very curious nature. Some of these he most probably will reprint."

The following are the contents of this volume :

Fac-simile of Shakspere's Autograph.

Fac-simile of Queen Elizabeth's Letter to him.

Fac-simile of four Miscellaneous papers.

Fac-simile of a Letter to Anna Hathereway (whom Shakspere afterwards married) inclosing a lock of his hair.

Fac-simile of a copy of verses to the same.

Fac-simile of Shakspere's Letter to the Earl of Southampton.

Fac-simile of the Earl's Answer.

Fac-simile of Shakspere's profession of his Faith.

Fac-simile of a Letter to Richard Cowley.

Fac-simile of a pen-drawing or sketch of Shakspere by himself, with his arms and crest, w th two signatures of his name.

Fac-simile of the Reverse, with his Initials, &c.

A deed of gift to William Henry Ireland, with fac-similes of his signature and seal.

Fac-simile of tributary lines to Ireland, with the arms of Ireland and Shakspere linked together by a chain, sketched by himself.

Fac-simile, a pen sketch of Ireland's house in Blackfriars.

Fac-simile of the arms of Shakspere and Ireland.

Fac-simile of Shakspere in the characters of Bassanio and Shylock, whole length tinted drawings.

Agreement with Lowine.

Agreement with Condelle.

Leafe to Michael Fraser and his wife.

Deed of trust to John Hemynge.

Tragedy of King Lear, with fac-similes.

Fac-simile of the first page of Hamlet.

Several controversial pamphlets have already appeared, in which the affirmative and negative side of the question, relative to the authenticity of these remains, are maintained ; but the public expectation is particularly excited by an announced work of Mr. MALONE, which he entitles a *Detection of the Forgery*, and the appearance of which is only delayed by the time requisite for finishing certain engravings.

Meantime, the play of *Vortigern* is preparing for exhibition at the Theatre Royal of Drury-Lane ; and it cannot be doubted, that attack on one side will be forcibly repelled by defence on the other.

NATURAL PHILOSOPHY AND MATHEMATICS.

Description of HERCHEL'S FORTY-FOOT REFLECTING TELESCOPE, delineated in the plate, and abridged from the last Number of the Philosophical Transactions.

THE Telescope is placed in a situation due north and south, and the plate delineates the whole apparatus as seen by a person placed at a convenient distance from it towards the south-west. From this view the structure is sufficiently understood ; and, with very little attention, the mode of pointing this immense

mense body to any part of the heavens will be clearly seen. We shall treat of the chief parts in their order; and first, of the tube itself.

The tube is made of rolled or sheet iron, joined together without rivets, by a similar seaming to that which is used for iron funnels for stoves; the thickness of the sheets is somewhat less than a 36th part of an inch, or it may be found more accurately by taking a square foot of it at the weight of fourteen pounds. Great care was taken in so joining the plates of which the tube is composed together, that the cylindrical form should be secured, and then the whole was coated over three or four times with paint, inside and outside, to secure it against the damp. The tube was formed at a short distance from its present place, and removed with great ease by twenty-four men, divided into six sets; so that two men on each side, with a pole of five feet long in their hands, to which was affixed a piece of coarse cloth, seven feet long, going under the tube, and joined to a pole of five feet long, in the hands of two other men, assisted in carrying the tube. The length of the tube is 39 feet 4 inches, the diameter 4 feet 10 inches; and, upon a moderate computation, it is supposed that a wooden tube for the same purpose would have exceeded this in weight by at least 3000 pounds. The length of the iron plate forming the tube, and composed of smaller ones 3 feet 10 inches long, and 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad, is nearly 40 feet, and the breadth 15 feet 4 inches.

The great mirror which, by proper methods, was brought to the lower part of the tube, is made of metal, 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter; but the concave part, or polished surface, is only 48 inches in diameter. Its thickness is 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches; and, when it came from the cast, its weight was 2118 pounds, of which a small quantity must have been lost in polishing. An iron ring, 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, within 4 inches broad, and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, with three strong handles to it, goes round the mirror, and a flat cover of tin is made to correspond to this ring, that the mirror may be preserved from damp; and, by an easy contrivance, it is taken off and fixed on at pleasure.

At the upper end, the tube is open, and directed to the part of the heavens intended for observation, to which the observer's back is turned, and he, standing on the foot-board visible in the plate, looks down the tube, and perceives the

object by rays reflected from the great mirror, through the eye-glass at the opening of the tube. Near the place of the eye-glass is the end of a tin pipe, into which a mouth-piece may be placed; so that, during an observation, a person may direct his voice into this pipe, whilst his eye is at the glass. This pipe is 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, runs down to the bottom of the tube, where it goes into a turning joint, thence into a drawing tube, and out of this into another turning joint, from whence it proceeds by a set of sliding tubes towards the front of the foundation timber. The use of this tube is to convey the voice of the observer to his assistants; for, at the last place, it divides itself into two branches, one going into the observatory, the other into the workman's room, ascending in both places through the floor, and being terminated in the usual shape of speaking-trumpets. Though the voice passes in this manner through a tube with many inflections, and not less than 115 feet, it requires very little exertion to be well understood.

To direct so immense a body to any part of the heavens at pleasure, much ingenuity, and many mechanical contrivances are evidently necessary. The whole apparatus rests upon rollers, and care was previously taken of the foundation in the ground. This consists of concentrical circular brick walls, the outermost 42 feet, the innermost 21 feet in diameter; 2 feet 6 inches deep under ground, two feet 3 inches broad at the bottom, and 1 foot 2 inches at the top, capped with paving-stones, about 3 inches thick, and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad. In the centre is a large post of oak, framed together with braces under ground, and walled fast with brick-work, to make it steady. Round this centre, the whole frame is moved horizontally, by means of 20 rollers, 12 upon the outer, and 8 upon the inner wall.

The vertical motion is given to the telescope by means of ropes and pulleys, as seen in the plate, passing over the main-beam, supported by the ladders. These ladders are in length forty-nine feet two inches; and there is a moveable gallery with twenty-four rollers to ease its motion. The small stair-case visible in the plate is intended for persons who wish to ascend into the gallery, without being obliged to go up the ladder. The ease with which the horizontal and vertical motions may be communicated to the tube will be best conceived from a remark

remark of HERSCHEL's, that, in the year 1789, he several times observed Saturn two or three hours before and after its meridian passage, with one single person to continue at his directions the necessary horizontal and vertical motions.

Upon the platform are visible two rooms, the one called the Observatory, eight feet five inches by five feet five inches, the other called the Working-room, six feet six inches by four feet five inches. To persons in these rooms, as has been above remarked, the observer can give his directions by means of the speaking-pipes; and in the rooms may be placed things, commonly used in Observatories.

From a view of the plate, and the description thus given of it, our readers, we presume, will form a competent idea of an instrument, which, with proper eye-glasses, magnifies above six thousand times, and is the largest that has ever been made. Astronomers in different parts of the world may be discouraged from continuing their observations, when it should seem, that their discoveries must be anticipated by our observer; but though he has so much the advantage, much is left to their labour and industry. It did not require a telescope of this magnitude to observe the object which was first discovered to be a planet by our Astronomer, for it had been seen and taken for a fixed star by many persons in the two last centuries. And the double ring of Saturn, which has, indeed, been so beautifully observed through Herschel's magnifier, had been already described by Cassini in his Memoirs. Such of our readers as wish for a more accurate account of this instrument, will find it in the Transactions of the Royal Society for 1795, second part; in which there are eighteen plates and sixty-three pages of letter-prefs, to give an ample detail of every circumstance relating to joiners' work, carpenters' work, smiths' work, &c. which has attended the formation and erection of this instrument. It was completed on August the 28th, 1789, on which day the sixth satellite of Saturn was discovered.

ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.

IN the year 1794, a periodical work, in monthly numbers, began to be published, entitled, "THE REPERTORY OF ARTS AND MANUFACTURES,"

the purpose of which was, to give to the public a full account of every improvement under those heads, contained either in patents, or the communications of ingenious men at home, or in the transactions of philosophical societies abroad. Of this very useful work, we mean to give such an historical retrospect, as shall approve our readers of the general nature of its contents, and direct them to the fuller information to be procured from the publication itself. We conceive that it will be most useful to throw the several articles into distinct classes; and we shall begin with those which principally belong to the head of *Chemistry*.

I. TANNING AND PREPARING LEATHER.

Mr. Samuel Ashton, of Sheffield, Yorkshire, obtained a patent for a new method of tanning, the essence of which consists in using mineral instead of vegetable astringents. The articles which he employs are very various, nor does he state any preference of some to others. They are, in general, native or artificial preparations of iron, copper, zinc, and sulphur, from which tan liquors are made, more or less compound, but all possessing considerable roughness or austerity to the taste. In these, the hides, previously prepared, are to be immersed, and treated in the usual mode by turning, &c. It is stated, that from five to seven weeks are sufficient for tanning sole leather, and from eighteen to twenty-eight days for crop leather and calves' skin. Vegetable substances, as oak, bark, &c. may be used as a dye, though not requisite for the tanning. See farther, *Repertory*, Vol. I. p. 4.

A patent was also granted to Mr. John Bellamy, of London, for a method of rendering leather water-proof; which is done by rubbing or brushing into the leather, a mixture of drying oils, and any of the oxides or calxes of lead, copper, or iron; or, according to his second method, by substituting any of the gummy resins, in the room of the metallic oxides.—Vol. I. p. 73.

The same volume also contains an elaborate account of a new method of tanning, and rendering leather water-proof, by the chevalier de St. Real. He recommends the green hides to be soaked in running water, a sufficient time to extract all the lymph, after which they are to be placed for one hour in water of the temperature of 167° (Fahrenh.); then to be stretched, and the hair taken off: they

they are now to be a second time placed in a cauldron of water, of the same heat as the former, which is to be renewed so long as it contains any animal jelly; after this process, they are to be placed on the horse, and the cellular membrane and *panniculus carnosus* are to be taken off. The cauldron is now to be filled with filtered tan-liquor, of the before-mentioned temperature, into which the skins are to be placed till completely tanned, the liquor being renewed from time to time. The leather is now to be curried in the usual manner, then soaked in melted fat, and, lastly, compressed between iron rollers.—Vol. I. p. 202.

We are presented, in the second volume, with an improved method of tanning, invented by Dr. Macbride, of Dublin. It consists in the use of lime-water, instead of common water, in preparing the infusion of tan; and in substituting diluted vitriolic acid in place of the usual sourings.—Vol. II. p. 341.

In January, 1790, a patent was granted to Mr. Hooper, of London, for manufacturing from leather-cuttings, a leather for covering coaches, &c. for binding books; and for making from leather-cuttings, mixed with rags or hemp, various sorts of paper, from the common brown, to that which is used in copper-plate printing, the process is the same with that of the paper manufactory.—Vol. II. p. 371.

The same volume contains a paper by the Rev. Geo. Swayne, of Pucklechurch, near Bristol, on the use of oak-leaves in tanning; from which it appears, that half a peck of leaves, contains nearly as much astringent matter, as one pound of bark. The price of bark, in Mr. Swayne's neighbourhood, when properly dried and cleaned, was six pounds per ton; he has had oak leaves collected at four-pence the sack of four bushels; one sack of leaves contains as much astringent matter, as thirty-two pounds of bark; of the former, the price was 4d. of the latter 1s. 8*½*.—Vol. II. p. 406.

In May, 1795, a patent was granted to John Tucker, of Wickham, tanner, for an improvement in his art, whereby the time requisite for tanning leather was shortened, and its quality improved. This new method consists in adapting flues to the *ooze-vat*, so as to heat the water, and thereby increase the action of the tan.—Vol. III. p. 217.

II. BLEACHING AND DYING.

Under this head there is a very valuable account, extracted from the Annales

de Chimie, of the new method of bleaching, by means of the oxygenated muriatic acid, by Mr. Berthollet. Having prepared a quantity of this acid, sufficiently diluted with water, the cloth is first to be submitted to the action of one or two good leys, and then immersed for three hours in the acid; the liquor being then wrung out of the cloth, it is again to be plunged into the ley, thus alternately making use of the acid and ley, till the cloth appears white, after which it is to be impregnated with black soap, strongly rubbed, and then submitted to the last ley and the last immersion. The number of leys and immersions, for linen or hempen cloths, varies from four to eight; but for cotton, a much weaker acid, and a fewer number of times, are sufficient. To ascertain the strength of the acid, one measure of a solution of cochineal, is put into a graduated glass tube, and the acid by degrees added to it, till the colour of the cochineal is destroyed: and having previously determined how many measures of acid, the proper strength of which has been ascertained by experiments on cloth, are necessary to destroy the colour of one measure of cochineal; this known proportion will serve as a rule, whereby to estimate the respective strength of all the bleaching mixtures, with which it may be necessary to compare it.—Vol. I. p. 53.

Mr. Hector Campbell has obtained a patent for bleaching linen rags and other materials, used in making paper, by means of Berthollet's process, as mentioned above.—Vol. I. p. 156.

A paper of Mr. Chaptal's, translated from the Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences of Paris, besides mentioning the process of bleaching rags, by means of the oxygenated muriatic acid, contains a method of recovering old stained books and smoaked prints, by the use of the same acid.—Vol. I. p. 355.

This work is enriched by a transcript from the Manchester Philosophical Memoirs of Mr. Henry's (of Manchester) valuable paper, on the nature of wool, silk, and cotton, as objects of dying; together with a detailed account of the elaborate process of dying Turkey red.—Vol. II. p. 41.

III. EXTRACTING TAR FROM PIT-COAL.

Lord Dundonald obtained a patent for this process, the peculiarity of which consists in the use of open vessels, instead of close ones; as was formerly made use of;

of; thus saving the expence of fuel, by making the coals themselves, from which the tar is to be extracted, furnish the necessary degree of heat.

IV. MANUFACTORY OF HATS.

In February, 1794, a patent was granted to Mr. Joseph Tillstone, of Newcastle, for the exclusive use of *kid-bair* in manufacturing hats.—Vol. I. p. 1.

The third volume of this work, contains a very ingenious paper on the mechanism of felting, by M. de Monge, extracted from the *Annales de Chimie*.—Vol. III. p. 351.

V. MANUFACTURING OF PAPER.

Under this head, we find an extract from the *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society*, containing an account of Dr. Franklin's, of the Chinese method of making large sheets of paper. The practice is to build of brick, lined with plaster, two vats rather larger than the intended surface of the paper; between these vats is erected a stove, with two inclining sides, each side something larger than the sheet of paper; they are covered with a fine polished stucco, and heated by a small fire. The mould is suspended by pulleys fastened to the ceiling; and to the end of the cords is attached a counterpoise, nearly equal to the weight of the mould. Two men lifting the mould out of the vat, turn it and apply it, together with the stuff for the sheet, to the smooth surface of the stove, at the same time pressing out a great part of the moisture; the heat of the wall soon evaporates the rest, and the operation is finished; and as the stove is furnished with two polished sides, and there are two vats, the same operation is performed by two other men at the other vat, and one fire serves.—Vol. I. p. 41.

In November, 1794, a patent was given to Mr. Cunningham, of Edinburgh, for an improved method of making paper, which consists in boiling the rags, or other materials, in a strong alkaline ley; and afterwards subjecting them to the action of oxygenated muriatic acid gas, according to the practice of M. Berthollet.—Vol. II. p. 224.

In September, 1787, a patent was granted to Mr. Hooper, of London, for a new method of manufacturing printing paper, particularly for copper-plate printing. His method is as follows: To one hundred weight of the best rags, ready prepared to make into paper, add forty pounds of alabaster, ten pounds of talc, and ten pounds of plaster of Paris, all three carefully calcined; to these add

twelve pounds of the best white sugar candy, with the requisite quantity of size, made from rice or pearl barley, then finish the manufacture in the usual way.

Vol. III. p. 377.

VI. WORKING OF IRON.

In June, 1792, a patent was granted to William Fullerton, Esq. of the county of Ayr, for a new method of separating the iron ore, from the matrix, of smelting it, and reducing it into malleable iron. The way of proceeding is by stamping, washing, &c. the calcined materials, to separate the ore from extraneous matter; then fusing the prepared ore in an open furnace, and instead of casting it, to suffer it to remain at the bottom of the furnace till it becomes cold.—Vol. I. p. 297.

In June, 1794, a patent was granted to Mr. Wilkinson, of Broseley, iron-master, for a smelting furnace of a new construction. Instead of melting the ore in furnaces of thirty to twenty feet high, Mr. Wilkinson's do not exceed ten feet in height, and two or more apertures are made for the introduction of blasts from bellows, the apertures being so contrived, that the workman may vary the number of them, according to the nature of the ore employed.

Vol. I. p. 371.

In January, 1795, a patent was granted to Mr. Wilde, of Sheffield, for making edge tools from a preparation of cast-steel and iron. The method here mentioned, consists in fixing a clean piece of wrought iron, brought to a welding heat, in the centre of a mould, and then pouring in melted steel, so as entirely to envelope the iron; and then forging the mass to the shape required.—Vol. II. p. 368.

In January, 1783, a patent was granted to Henry Cort, of Funtly iron mills, Southamptonshire, for a new method of welding iron, which consists in the skilful *bundling* of the iron to be welded: in the use of an extraordinary large forge hammer, in employing a *balling-furnace*, instead of a *bollow fire* or *chafery*; and in passing the iron, reduced to a welded heat, through grooved mill-rollers of different shapes and sizes.—Vol. III. p. 289.

In February, 1794, the same Henry Cort obtained a patent for a new method of shingling and manufacturing iron, which is as follows: The ore being fused in a reverberating furnace, is conveyed, while fluid, into an air furnace, where it is exposed to a strong heat, till a bluish

a bluish flame is observed on the surface; it is then agitated and stirred by rakes, till it loses its fusibility, and is collected into lumps called *loops*; these loops are then put into another air furnace, brought to a white, or welding heat, and then shingled into *half-blooms* or *slabes*; they are again exposed to the air furnace, and the half-blooms taken out and forged into *anconies*, *bars*, *half-flats*, and *rods for wire*; while the slabes are passed, when of a welding heat, through the grooved rollers. In this way of proceeding, it matters not whether the iron is prepared from *cold* or *hot short* metal, nor is there any occasion for the use of finery, charcoal, coke, chafery, or hollow fire; or any blast by bellows or otherwise, or the use of fluxes, in any part of the process.—
Vol. III. p. 361.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF FOREIGN LITERATURE.

PRUSSIA.

AT Berlin, BODE continues with great success, his Astronomical Observations; he has published his Ephemerides for the year 1798, which after the Journal, contains many useful treatises; among them is the calculation of the disturbing force of the planet HERSCHEL on Jupiter and Saturn. The former of which does not suffer an aberration by this force of more than 1° 3'. the latter of 88''. In another, it is proved, that FLAMSTEED's N°. 34 in Taurus, which has disappeared, must have been the planet HERSCHEL. Bode has also published his second supplement to his Ephemerides, from 1776 to 1798; in which, from an examination of the original writings of DOMINICK CASSINI (Mem. Anc. Tom X.) he has clearly proved that this astronomer observed, in the same manner as Herschel has lately done, the double ring of Saturn. These works of Bode, will, we doubt not, be highly prized by all astronomers.

GERMANY.

IN Germany, Ernst. Ludurg Posselt, has published at Tubingen his European Annals, for the year 1795, which are spoken of with some applause. The plan of the work seems to have been taken from that of our Annual Registers. Zimmerman, of Brunswick, has considered the probable effects of the French Revolu-

tion on Germany, in a work, entitled, An earnest Retrospect on his Country, on the Approach of Peace, by a Good German, dedicated to all the Nobles and Men of Power in Germany. In which he treats of the systems of equality, representation, and nobility. The latter is defended not from any worth in its origin, but from its real utility in every state. The representative system he throws aside in a few words, because it may happen, that a small majority may determine on the choice of a representative, and, consequently, the minority will be unrepresented. Rastner, Bruns, and Zimmerman, have in concert, published at Brunswick, their account of the progress in different parts of geographical science, in the last third part of the present century, to the year 1790, in 8vo. Ehrmann, of Sturtgard, announced, in November, his design of publishing next Easter, an universal library, for the knowledge of nations and states, to be continued periodically. The chief intent of the work is to give a general account of the science, much in vogue in Germany, under the name of Statisticks. But the great work to which Germany calls our attention, is the collection of Wieland's writings. Parma, Paris, and London, have given specimens of the progress of their respective countries in the art of printing. Germany, though the inventor of that art, has been supposed to lay claim to little merit from its types, printing, or paper. It now comes forward with great pretensions, and a superb edition of Wieland's works, in 4to, 8vo, 12mo, is in the press, and the editor spares neither expence nor pains, in his endeavour to shew that Germany is not inferior to any other country in splendid book-making. Ten volumes have been delivered, and the curious in these arts will naturally give them a place in their collection.

With the permission of the government, Mr. BENDAVID reads private Lectures at Vienna, on KANT's Philosophy. He is the first who has given lectures on that subject at Vienna: and at Caschaw, in Hungary, Professor DICHY lost his places for similar lectures, and he now performs the office of private tutor at Vienna.

FRANCE.

AMONG the works published lately at Paris, the most important are Ancient Rome, or an Historical and Picturesque Description of every thing relating

lating to the Romans, in their civil, military, and religious customs, and in their public and private manners, from **ROMULUS** to **AUGUSTULUS**, with fifty plates by **GRASSET**. **ST. SAUVEUR**, 4to. The origin of all the forms of worship, or universal religion, by **DUPUIS**, 12 vol. 8vo. and one volume of plates in 4to. Simplification of the Oriental Languages, or a New and Easy Method of learning the Arabic, Persian, and Turkish Languages, with European Characters, by **C. F. VOLNEY**, 135 p. 8vo. When we consider the character of this writer, and his long residence in the east, it cannot be doubted, that this attempt will excite the curiosity of the studious; for the facility of trade and negociation, such a work will answer every purpose; and as characters may be formed for every peculiar sound in a language, and the vowels may be applied with ease to every word, a learner, by this mode, will probably find little difficulty in reading the manuscripts of three languages, which, at present, are scarce studied in our country. In Germany, much has been attempted on the same subject; but the learned confined themselves to the enunciation of a few words only. France has now opened the way to that indefatigable nation, which it will probably pursue with great advantage. The Republics of Sparta and Athens, translated from **XENOPHON**, by **J. B. GAIL**, 18mo. **DORBEVIL** and **CELIANE DE VALIAN**, or the History of their Love and Misfortunes, during the tyranny of **ROBESPIERRE**, 2 vol. 18mo.

The government of France is, at present, very zealous in promoting astronomical researches, and every thing dependant on them. **LA PLACE**, **DE LAMBRE**, and **MECHAIN**, whose merit is well known in the philosophical world, are placed in the Marine-Office, with considerable salaries. **BEAUCHAMP** is appointed consul for Mascatta in Arabia, there to superintend, and to perfect, as much as in him lies, the eastern geography. **NOUET** and **PERNY** have been sent into the Netherlands and to the Rhine, to lay down a series of triangles in those districts. **MECHAIN** is now busy in Perpignan on the measurement of a degree in the earth's surface, whilst **DE LAMBRE** is preparing to meet him with a series of triangles from Orleans. A basis for triangles for the same purpose is to be formed near Tralles, in the canton of Berne, to which place

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LALANDE has sent the necessary requisites for accurate mensuration. The revolution has scarcely disturbed the labours of Lalande, who, since the year 1789, has been preparing his catalogue of the fixed stars, which will contain above thirty thousand. In commemoration of the instrument which has been so serviceable to him in this work, he has placed a new constellation between the Dragon, Bootes, and Hercules, which he calls the Mural Quadrant. Lalande is now Director of the National Observatory (formerly called the Royal Observatory) and one of the Committee for the longitude, established by a decree of the Convention, as well as of the Committee for Navigation on Canals. Several canals are already undertaken, as one from the Oise to the Sambre, and others are proposed for the employment of the soldiers as soon as they are disbanded. The latitude of the National Observatory is settled by Nouet and Perny at $48^{\circ} 50' 11''$. The French government is not less active in its preparations for the new established decimal divisions. **PRONY**, the engineer, is employed in superintending the calculations for the tables of sines and logarithms. The sines are to be calculated for every ten thousandth part of a quadrant (that is, about $30''$ in the sexagesimal system) to twenty-two decimal places, with fifty differences. Logarithms are given for the sines and tangents of every hundred thousandth part of a quadrant (about $3''$) to twelve decimal places, with the second differences. The logarithms of common numbers, from one to two hundred thousand, to twelve decimal places, with the first and second differences; and the logarithms from one to ten thousand, are to be calculated to twenty-five decimal places. Fifteen calculators have been appointed, and each calculation is to be made twice.

LITERARY NOTICES.

DR. Darwin will speedily gratify the public with a second volume of his *Zoonomia*. It is in such a state of forwardness, that it may be expected by the end of this month.

Dr. G. Gregory is about to go to press with a capital philosophical work, in three large volumes, octavo, under the title of *The Economy of Nature explained and illustrated on the Principles of modern Philosophy*. Such a work has long been a desideratum.

Proposals have been circulated, soliciting subscribers for the publication of the Poetical Works of the Rev. Samuel Bishop. This gentleman's known talents may be expected to procure a respectable subscription.

Madame D'Aublay (the late Miss Burney) also announces a new novel, entitled *Camilla*, in five volumes, to be published by subscription.

The Rev. Dr. Vincent has in the press, a "Translation of the Voyage of Nearhus, from the Indies to the Euphrates."

We are sorry to announce, that the edition of Photius's Lexicon, undertaken by the University of Cambridge, under the conduct of Professor Porson, will not make its appearance so early as was wished for. Unfortunately, the beautiful transcript for the press, made from the manuscript by the professor, was destroyed in a fire which consumed the house of his friend. The original, however, is safe; and, from what is known of the assiduity of the professor, we venture to anticipate, that the learned world will speedily be favoured with this much-expected work. A new fount of Greek types is preparing; and the admirers of elegant typography will, we doubt not, receive as much pleasure from the beauty of the page, as all sound critics will from the learning of the editor.

Mr. Dyer's long-expected Life of the late eminent Mr. Robinson, of Cambridge, will make its appearance in the course of a month. Mr. Dyer is also engaged in preparing a poetical work, to be entitled the *Poet's Fate*.

Dr. Walcot is writing a mock-heroic poem, containing the History of the King of the Beggars, Bamfylde Moore Carew. Its publication may be speedily looked for, and it is spoke of as his *chef d'œuvre*.

Mr. Merry is publishing a complete edition of his works, verse and prose.

Mr. Gilbert Wakefield has now in the press a beautiful edition of Lucretius; and his edition of Homer's Iliad and Odyssey are shortly expected.

Mr. Maurice has ready for the press a second volume of his Indian Antiquities: the public patronage of the former volume does not, however, warrant the publication of the present, under the circumstance of the enormous expences.

Mr. David Williams has just finished his History of Monmouthshire, which will speedily be published, in quarto.

The works of the Rev. Dr. Towers will shortly be delivered to the subscribers.

Mr. G. C. Morgan has just finished, and is preparing for publication, The Life of his late Uncle, the celebrated Dr. Richard Price.

Miss Seward has a volume of poems in the press, Llangollen Vale and others.

[*These Notices will be continued and extended hereafter to the useful and polite arts.*]

A CORRECT LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

DIVINITY.

LETTERS to Mr. Archdeacon Travis, by the Translator of Michaelis, 8s. Marsh.

Sermons on various Subjects, by the late Rev. T. Toller, 6s. Robinsons.

Sacred History, in Familiar Dialogues, for the Instruction of Children and Youth, with an Appendix; in Sixteen Letters, by a *Lady*; recommended by the Rev. J. Ryland. Gardener.

Considerations addressed to the French Bishops and Clergy now residing in England, 1s. 6d. Debrett.

Christian Knowledge, by a *Lover of True Philosophy*, 6s. Cadell and Davis.

Sermons on several Evangelical and Practical Subjects, by the late Dr. Savage, 6s. Johnson.

Sermons on various Subjects, by the late Rev. Thomas Fuller, 5s 6d. Brown.

Claude's Essay on the Composition of a Sermon, from the French, by the Rev. R. Robinson, with an Appendix, 10s. Mathews, Dilly, &c.

METAPHYSICS AND PHILOSOPHY.

Hermes unmasked, Letters 3 and 4, by Capt. T. G. Brown, 1s. 6d. Ridgway.

PHILOLOGY.

Giraud's French Verbs, on an imperial sheet. Faulder.

HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY, &c.

Interesting Anecdotes, &c. by Mr. Addison, 4 vols. 8vo. 20s. Longman.

The Lives of the First Twelve Cæsars, translated from Suetonius, by Alex. Thompson, M.D. 8s. Robinson.

Mémoirs sur la Vie & le Caractère de Madame la Duchesse de Polignac, par M. le Comte Diane de Polignac, 2s. 6d. Debrett.

The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D. by Robert Anderson, M.D. 5s. Arch, London. Bell, &c. Edinburgh.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of the Abate Metastasio, by Dr. Burney, 3 vols. 1l. 1s. Robinsons.

An Accurate and Impartial Narrative of the War, by an Officer of the Guards, 2 vols. 10s. Cadell and Davis.

LAW.

A Continuation of a Digest of the Statute Law, by T. W. Williams, Esq. 5s. Robinsons and Kearsley.

An Historical Treatise of a Suit in Equity, by *C. Barron*, 5s. Clarke and Son.

Reports of Cases in the Court of Exchequer, from Easter Term, 32 Geo. III, to Trinity Term, 35 Geo. III, by *Alex. Arstruther*, Esq. 2 vols. 18s. Clarke and Son.

POETRY.

Peter Pindar's Works, vol. IV, 10s. 6d. Walker.

The Sea-fick Minstrel, 5s. White.

Leonora; translated from the German, by Mr. *Sarley*, 2s. 6d. Miller.

The works of the British Poets, with Prefaces, Biographical and Critical, by Dr. *R. Anderson*. J. and A. Arch.

NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, CHEMISTRY, &c. Theory of the Earth, with Proofs and Illustrations, by *James Sutton*, M.D. 2 vols. 14s. Cadell and Davis.

A Mathematical and Philosophical Dictionary, containing an Explanation of the Terms, and an Account of the several Subjects comprised under the Heads Mathematics, Astronomy, and Philosophy, both Natural and Experimental, by *Charles Hutton*, LL.D. &c. Johnson and Robinsons.

A practical Introduction to Spherics and nautical Astronomy, by *P. Kelly*, 6s. Johnson.

FINE ARTS.

A Selection of Examples for the Use of the Drawing School, Christ's-Hospital, by *B. Green*, 1l. 1s.

Industry and Idleness, part of a new edition of the Works of Hogarth, by *Thomas Cook*, 7s. 6d. Robinsons.

GEOGRAPHY, TRAVELS, &c.

A nine sheet Map of North Wales, by *John Evans*, 3l. 3s. Faden.

The Naval Gazetteer, or Seaman's Complete Guide, by *J. Malham*, 2 vols. 18s. Allen and West.

An Essay on Colonization, &c. by *C. B. Wadstrom*, 1l. 11s. 6d. Darton and Hervey, &c.

Letters written during a short Residence in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, by *Mary Wallstonecroft*, 4s. Johnson.

Travels through various Provinces of the Kingdom of Naples in 1791, by *Charles Ulysses*, translated from the German, by *A. Aufreter*, Esq. Cadell and Davis.

Travels into different parts of Europe in 1791 and 1792, by *J. Owen*, A.M. 2 vols. 14s. Cadell and Davis.

Letters on France in 1794 and 1795, by *Major Tench*, 4s. Johnson.

AGRICULTURE.

Outlines of Agriculture, by *D. Hunter*, M.D. 2s. Cadell and Davis.

Planting and Rural Ornament, being a practical Treatise, a second edition with large additions, by Mr. *Marshall*, 2 vols. 14s. Nicol, &c.

A short Address to the Public on the Monopoly of small Farms, by *T. Wright*, 6d. Richardson.

MEDICINE.

A Second Dissertation on Fevers, by *G. Fordyce*, M.D. 3s. Johnson.

A Complete Dictionary of Farriery and Horsemanship, by *J. Hunter*, 5s. Baldwin.

Observations on the Seats and Courses of Diseases, by *J. Hamilton*, jun. M.D. vol. I, 6s. Robinsons, London; Hill, Edinburgh.

Medical Commentaries for 1795, vol. IV, by *A. Duncan*, M.D. 6s. Mudie and Son, Edinburgh, and Robinsons, London.

Practical Observations on the Treatment of Strictures in the Urethra, by *E. Holme*, 3s. 6d. Johnson.

The Anatomy of the Horse, No. I, 2s. 6d. and 4s. Cox and Son.

THE DRAMA.

The Man of Ten Thousand, by *Thomas Holcroft*, 2s. Robinsons.

History of the Theatres of London, 2 vols. 6s. Martin and Bain.

The Sicilian Lover, a Tragedy, in five Acts, by *Mrs. Robinson*, 5s. Hookham and Carpenter.

The Roses, or King Henry the Sixth, an Historical Tragedy, represented at Reading, 1s. 6d. Richardson.

Speculation, a Comedy, by *Frederick Reynolds*, 2s. Longman.

Observations on Hamlet, by *James Plumptre*, M.A. 2s. Robinson.

MISCELLANIES.

A Selection from the Annals of Virtue of *Madame de Silling*, translated by *E. M. James*, 5s. Richardson, &c.

An Enumeration of the principal Vegetables that may be substituted for Wheat, 1s. Baldwin.

Essays, Tales, and Poems, by *J. S. Nongate*, 4s. Rivington.

A Friendly Address to the Poor of Great Britain, by *T. Tapwell*, 1d. Rivington.

The Triumph of Acquaintance over Friendship, by a *Lady*, 2s. 6d. Cadell and Davis.

Reflections on Usury, as conducted by the Mode of undervalued Annuities, 2s. Murray and Highley.

Memoirs of the Society of Manchester, vol. IV, p. ii. 6s. Cadell and Davis.

A Comparative Review of the Opinions of *W. J. Boaden*, relative to the Shakespeare MSS. 2s. Sael, &c.

Evenings at Home, vol. V, and VI, by *Dr. Aikin*, 3s. Johnson.

Hints to Freshmen, from a Member of the University of Cambridge, 1s. Law.

Some Account of the Marantia or Indian Arrow Root, recommended as a substitute for Starch, by *T. Ryder*, 1s. Bell.

An Essay on the Fundamental Principles on which Establishments for the Poor may be found in all Countries, by *Count Rumford*, 1s. 6d. Cadell and Davis.

Vortigern under Consideration, with Remarks on Boaden's Letters, 2s. Lowndes.

The Ranger, a Collection of Periodical Essays, 2 vols. 8vo. 10s. 6d. Parsons, &c.

The Diversions of the Court of Vienna, thirty-two cards, with directions, 3s. Champante and Co.

Shakspeare MSS. in the Possession of Mr. Ireland, examined, by *Philalethes*, 1s. Johnson.

A Catalogue of valuable Books, by *Thomas Payne*, Mews Gate, 6d.

NOVELS.

Maria, or the Vicarage, 2 vols. 6s. Hookham and Carpenter.

The Foresters, altered from the French, by Miss Gunning, 12s. Low and Law.

The Tradition, a Legendary Tale, 2 vols. 6s. Lane, Hodgson, &c.

Wanderings of the Imagination, by Mrs Gooch, 2 vols. 6s. Crosby.

The Adventures of a Pin, 3s. Lee.

Nature and Art, by Mrs. Inchbald, 2 vols. 7s. Robinson.

Angelo, by E. H. Iliff, 2 vols. 5s. Allen and West.

Albert de Nordenchild, translated from the German, 2 vols. 7s. Robinson.

Adela Northington, 3 vols. 10s. 6d. Cawthorn.

The Evening Walk, a Tale, by T. Clio Rickman, 2s. 6d. Walker and Rickman.

POLITICS.

Interesting State Papers from Washington, Fauchet, &c. 3s. 6d. Philadelphia, printed; Owen, London.

Strictures on a proposed Plan for adopting a Loan, with a View of instituting Reversionary Annuities, 1s. Johnson.

Facts, addressed to the Serious Attention of the People of Great Britain, respecting the Expense of the War, and the State of the Public Debt, by W. Morgan, F.R.S. 1s. Debrett, Cadell and Davis.

A Warning Voice to the Associations, by M. G. Percina, 1s. Mason, &c.

Something which concerns every Body at this awful Crisis, by one of the People, 1s. Symonds.

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A Defence of the Pamphlet ascribed to John Reeves, by the Rev. J. Brand, 2s. 6d. Longman.

The whole Proceedings at large on the Trial of Mr. W. Stone, 3s. Cawthorn.

A Summary Review of the Causes that have produced the present melancholy State of the Nation, 1s. Lee.

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Political Strictures on the present Ministry, 1s. Griffith, &c.

A Letter from the Right Hon. E. Burke to a Noble Lord, upon the Attacks made upon him and his Pension, 2s. 6d. Owen.

A Letter to Mr. Pitt on the conduct of the Bank Directors, and on Mr. Morgan's Pamphlet, 1s. Stockdale.

[This Article will be continued regularly.]

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

[As none of the existing periodical publications furnish a Catalogue of New Music, we have taken some pains to make this part of our plan as perfect as possible. In addition to the catalogue, we are enabled to hazard some opinions in regard to the merits of the pieces, which we conceive may be useful to practitioners in the country, and interesting to the musical world in general.]

HAYDN's Three Sonatas for the Piano Forte (in which is introduced the famous Gypsy Rondo) with Accompaniments for Violin and Violoncello, Op. 73. 8s. Longman and Broderip.

These sonatas consist of three movements. The first are in a grand style; the adagios are in the sublime manner of the master; and the last movements are light and airy. We particularly notice a favourite air, called the Gypsy Rondo, characteristic of the dances of that people in Germany. The whole is certainly equal to most of Haydn's former productions.

Ross's Instructions for the Piano Forte, 10s. 6d. Longman and Broderip.

An useful book for the instruction of beginners on the piano forte. The author is a professor of merit at Aberdeen.

Jarnovick's two new Concertos for the Piano Forte, with an Accompaniment for the Violin, 8s. L. & B.

These concertos are written in the usual brilliant style of this master, and well calculated to display the skill of performers to advantage.

Sterckel's Sonatas, Op. 30 & 32, for the Piana Forte, with Accompaniments for the Violin and Violoncello, 10s. 6d. Also, by Ditto, a single Sonata, 3s. L. & B.

These sonatas are far superior to any compositions already published by this author. We recommend him in future to shorten his movements, as they appear to us to be considerably too long: this may be readily effected, by not repeating the same passages so frequently.

Windsor Castle, an Opera, as performed at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden, in honour of the Nuptials of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, by J. P. Salomon, 8s. Corri & Co.

This piece was got up, *in haste*, for the celebration of the occasion mentioned. We are of opinion, that this work is made up of the composition of various authors; but having a temporary object,

it passed off in several performances with some eclat. We are sorry to observe, that the overture, composed by Haydn, and originally performed in this piece, is now omitted, and another substituted in its place.

Haydn's Second Set of three Quartettos, for two Violins, Alto and Bass, Op. 74, 10s. 6d. C. and Co. Also, by the same, an Overture for the Piano Forte, with Accompaniments, 4s. Ditto.

These works are in the usual scientific style of this composer, and only want good performers to do justice to the author's ideas.

Collizzi's Three easy Sonatas and Duets, for the Piano Forte, Op. 7, 7s. 6d. Longman and Broderip.

These sonatas are written in a very easy style, and well contrived for the use of juvenile performers.

Musical Remains, or the Compositions of Handel, Bach, Abel, Giuliani, &c. selected by E. Jones, 10s. 6d.

We confess the necessity of publishing these remains does not appear to us sufficiently obvious. They are most of them, at present, well known, and in the possession of every amateur in music.

Six Trios for Violin, Tenor, and Violoncello, by W. Shields, Esq. 10s. 6d. L. & B.

These trios have great merit. Some of them are in a very singular time. The work is inscribed to the memory of Jacob Moore, Esq. and in an advertisement prefixed, Mr. Shields informs us, that "These trios were composed chiefly for that celebrated landscape painter (in Rome) and dedicated to his memory, as a token of gratitude for the services he rendered the author during his residence in that city. The movements, which are written in the uncommon time of $\frac{5}{4}$, have amused some of the most distinguished professors, both in England and Italy, which induced the author to hope they will not be disagreeable to the public at large."

The Adopted Child, by Mr. Attwood, 8s. Longman & Broderip.

The favourite Overture and Songs in Merry Sherwood, 1s. each. L. & B.

These have considerable theatrical effect; and their repeated performances to crowded houses are sufficient to speak to the merit they evidently possess.

Afiole's Six Duets for Two Voices, with an Accompaniment for a Piano Forte.

Viotti's Third grand Concerto, arranged for the Piano Forte, by Dussek, 7s. 6d.

Cramer's Three Sonatas, with Airs, Op. 11, 8s. Ferrari's Twelve Italian Canons, 6s.

Mozart's Eight English and Italian Canzonets, 8s.

Madame Dussek's Second Set of Three Harp Songs, Op. 3. 6d.

Giornovichi's Vio. Con. in G, with Accompaniments, 6s.

Devienne's six Airs, arranged as Duets for two Flutes, 5s.

N. Corri's Duettinos, German, Italian, and English, 3s.

We have carefully examined the last nine pieces published by Corri & Co. and they each of them have their respective merits, according to the styles of the composers, and the instruments for which they are intended.

Three Sonatas for the Piano Forte, with Accompaniments for Violin and Violoncellos, by A. Gyrowets, Op. 8, 8s. L. & B.

These sonatas are more brilliant than any this author has yet published. We notice the popular airs of "Wind gentle Evergreen," and "My native Land," introduced with great effect. The last movements are lively and pleasing, and, upon the whole, we consider that the merit of this work will introduce it to the immediate notice of musical amateurs.

Banti's Songs in Alceste, each 2s. 6d.

The favourite Duet in La Belle Arsene, by Pasiello, 2s. 6d.

Lyon's Six English Canzonets, 7s. 6d.

Dr. Cooke's Glees, 10s. 6d.

Ebden's Glees, 10s. 6d.

Pichl's Duets for the Violin and Tenor, Op. 18, 7s. 6d.

Sperger's Quartettos, Op. 1. 6s.

Feyer's Concerto for the Violin, Op. 2, 5s. All by Longman and Broderip.

The well-known reputation of these composers is such, that little comment is required on our part. We particularly notice the duet of Pasiello in *La Belle Arsene*, and the glees by Dr. Cooke and Mr. Ebden.

In Musical instruments, we this year observe an improvement, announced by Messrs. Longman and Broderip, in the barrel organ. This instrument is so improved, as that by uniting the harp stop, it produces the effect of a band, and therefore is particularly calculated for private families and country dances. Those gentlemen have also advertised an improvement upon the small Piano Forte; in which are introduced six additional notes, without enlarging the size of the instrument. The additional notes have fine harmonic sounds.

The Conductors of this Work venture to assure the Public, that the PIECES under this Head will be really ORIGINAL; and that, from the known Abilities of many who have promised their occasional Contributions, this Department may with some Confidence be recommended to the Notice of the Lovers of Poetry.

A PINDARIC ODE. TO SCIENCE.

BY GEORGE DYER.

*Mnuō' alion σκοπεῖ
Αλλο θελπυτέρον
Εν αμφέπα φρεσινού αἰγῶν
Εργάτας δὲ αἰθέρος.* PINDAR, Oly. O. I.

Mark the glowing sun on high,
Scattering round a golden ray;
He shines am'st the desert sky,
Unrival'd Ruler of the Day.

I. 1.

THERE are who skim the stream of life,
And catch delight from every passing gale;
No doleful sounds their ears affail,
Nor heed they Nature's strife.
Bright skies illume their dawning day,
While Music wakes its magic powers,
No clouds obstruct their noon-tide ray,
And to soft measures move their evening hours.
Gaily its course the motley vessel glides,
As Pleasure at the helm, a laughing beauty,
guides.

I. 2.

Their destin'd course some lonely bend,
And no propitious gales attend;
While direful notes are heard from far,
The scream of woe, the din of war:
Midst struggling storms their mornings doubtful rise;
Sullen and slow proceed their hours along;
Mid scowling tempests close their western skies,
Nor soothes their ear the cheerful voice of song.

I. 3.

But lo! the sons of Genius stand,
And Science open spreads her volume fair,
And Friendship waves her hand
To check the child of Mirth, to soothe the
child of Care;
Nature assumes her smiling form,
Like ocean resting from a storm:
From distant India's pearly shores,
From mystic Egypt's latent flores,
Or where in Grecia's tuneful groves
The graces wanton'd with the loves,
Lo! Science comes, and takes her awful seat,
While Genius glides along, her queen's advance
to greet.

II. 1.

The blooming wreath of rapturous praise,
Now weave with vary'd skill, and conscious
pride,
As when, near Pisa's laurell'd side,
The Theban wove the living bays:

Of brow serene, and port sublime,
Immortal Science, hail! To thee,
Bright with the spoils of ancient time,
We yield the crown, we bend the willing
knee.

To thee the virtues all obedient rise,
And Truth with unveil'd face, and clear unclouded eyes.

II. 2.

" Ye sons of mirth, and sons of care,
" I the bow'r of bliss prepare;
" Near me stream ambrosial flow'r's;
" Near me bloom immortal flow'r's:
" Oh! hither then your erring courses bend;
" Here Mirth's wild crew may haply find a friend;
" Soon near my side shall Care forget to grieve,
" And pining Melancholy dare to live."

II. 3.

Thus Science spake aloud—when, lo!
By Fancy's eye were seen the sacred choir,
That taught with vivid glow
The canvas first to shine, that wak'd the
melting lyre; [move,
And round and round their queen they
Symphonious to the voice of Love.
Nor did in vain the thrilling dart
Of Music pierce the captiv'd heart,
Till ev'ry discord died away,
As clouds before the solar ray.
Through the wide earth th' harmonic chords
resound, [smiles around.
While Rapture lifts her voice, and Goodness
Feb. 10, 1796.

IDYLLIUM. THE PRISON.

BY DR. DARWIN.

O, WELCOME, Debtor! in these walls
Thy cares, and joys, and loves forego!
Approach; a brother Debtor calls,
And join the family of woe!

Did Fortune with her frowning brow
Thy late and early toils withstand?
Or Slander strike the fatal blow,
Or griping Us'ry's iron hand?

Say, does a wife, to want consign'd,
While weeping babes surround her bed,
Peep through, and see the fetters bind
Those hands, that earn'd their daily bread?

Does she in vain, on knees that bend,
The marble heart of wealth implore?
Breathless pursue some flying friend,
Or beat in vain the closing door?

Look up, and share our scanty meal;
For us some brighter hours may flow;
Some angel break these bolts of steel,
For HOWARD marks, and feels our woe.

ADDRESS

ADDRESS TO POVERTY.

'TIS not that look of anguish, bath'd in tears,
O Poverty ! thy haggard image wears—
'Tis not those famish'd limbs, naked, and bare
To the bleak tempest's rains, or the keen air
Of winter's piercing winds, nor that sad eye
Imploring the small boon of charity—
'Tis not that voice, whose agonizing tale
Might turn the purple cheek of grandeur pale ;
Nor all that host of woes thou bring'ft with thee,
Insult, contempt, disdain, and contumely,
That bid me call the fate of those forlorn,
Who 'neath thy rude oppression sigh and mourn :
But chief, relentless pow'r ! thy hard controul,
Which to the earth bends low th' aspiring soul ;
Thine iron grasp, thy fetters drear, which bind
Each gen'rous effort of the struggling mind!—
Alas ! that Genius, melancholy flow'r,
Scarce op'ning yet to even's nurt'ring show'r,
Shou'd, by thy pitiless and cruel doom,
Wither, ere nature smiles upon her bloom ;
That Innocence, touch'd by thy dead'ning wand,
Shou'd pine, nor know one outstretch'd guardian
hand !

For this, O Poverty ! for them, I sigh,
The helpless victims of thy tyranny !
For this, I call the lot of those severe,
Who wander'mid thy haunts, and pine unheeded
there !

Feb. 1, 1796.

L.

The following Burlesque of Horace's Otium divos, was written at the Mohawk-Castle, in the year 1761, by the Elder CAPTAIN MORRIS, and sent to his friend Lieutenant Montgomery, afterwards a General Officer in the American service, and killed at the siege of Quebec.

EASE is the pray'r of him, who, in a whale-boat,
Crossing lake Champlain, by a storm's o'ertaken;
Not struck his blanket*, not a friendly island
Near to receive him.
Ease is the wish too of the fly Canadian ;
Ease the delight of bloody Caghawagas ;
Ease, Richard, ease, not to be bought with
wampum,
Nor paper money.

Not colonel's pay, nor yet a dapper sergeant,
Orderly waiting with recover'd halberd,
Can chafe the crowd of troubles, still surrounding
Lac'd regimentals.

That Sub lives best, who, with a fash in tatters,
Worn by his grandfire at the fight of Blenheim,
To fear a stranger, and to wild ambition,
Snores on a bear-skin.

Why, like fine-fellows, are we ever scheming ?
We short-liv'd mortals ! Why so fond of climates
Warm'd by new suns ? O, who that runs from
home, can

Run from himself too ?

* The soldier's blanket; used by the army
as a sail.

Care climbs radeaux† with four-and-twenty
pounders,
Nor quits our light troops, or our Indian warriors;
Swifter than moose-deer, or the fleeter eastwind
Pushing the clouds on.

He, whose good humour can enjoy the present,
Scorns to look forward ; with a smile of patience
Temp'ring the bitter. Bliss uninterrupted
None can inherit.

Death instantaneous hurried off Achilles ;
Age fair-extended woe away Tithonus :
Who will live longer, thou or I, Montgom'ry ?
Dicky or Tommy ?

Thee twenty mess-mates, full of noise and
laughter,
Cheer with their sallies ; thee the merry damsels
Please with their titt'ring ; while thou sitt'st
adorn'd with

Boots, fash, and gorget.
Me to Fort Hendrick, 'midst a savage nation,
Dull Connajohry, cruel fate has driven.
O, think on Morris, in a lonely chamber,
Dabbling in Sapphic.

EPIGRAM.

HINT FROM JORTIN'S TRACTS.

To a poor Author.

Q. WHY this verbose redundant style?

A. Undoubtedly—for know, my friend,
I sell it by the letter.Newcastle upon Tyne, J. R. JAHONEY,
Feb. 10, 1796.EPITAPH IN ST. GILES'S CHURCH,
NORWICH.

Juxta hoc Marmor requiescit
—Gulielmus Offley, M.D.
Filius natu maximus Gulielmi Offley, Rectoris de
Middleton Stoney, in Comitatū Oxonensi, &
Uxor ejus Susanna. Colegiū Regalis apud
Cantabrigiam olim focius.

LITERIS humanioribus usque ab adolescentia
instructus,
In morbis perscrutandis Vir apprimē solers,
in tractandis peritus, [exercuit,
Quam accuratē, feliciter & honestè, artes suas
Novit universa Civitas, & grata recordabitur ;
Artes vero illius quantas cunque ornaverunt
Ingenii Candor, Morum simplicitas, & Modestia,
In sublevandis Inopum miseriis, Quis unquam
benignior ? [observantia ?
In colendo Deo, quæ major, aut religiosior
Quo studio, quâque in suos caritate
Domi gescit se Maritum, & Patrem,
In animo est Uxor & Liberorum superstitionis ;
Talis denique ex hac vita decepit,
Ut Nemo non desideraret Hominem,
Quem nuper, Nemo non dilexerit.

Feb. 15, 1796.

† Floating-batteries ; used on Lake Champlain.
ELEGY

ELEGY IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

*Æqua tellus pauperi recluditur
Regumque pueris* HORACE.
*Earth impartial entertains
Her various sons, and in her breast
Princes and beggars equal rest.* FRANCIS.

NO more I wander the muse-haunted grove,
Where deeds of glory swell the epic strain,
Or where the raptures of requited love
Wake the sweet numbers of th' impassion'd swain.

For, ah ! how transient love's endearing joy,
That richest boon of favouring heav'n to man ;
And what ambition, but an infant's toy,
To minds that ponder life's contracted span ?

Then come, Reflection, nymph of sober mien,
Who rov'd beneath the yew-tree's shade with Gray ;
Teach me to meditate the solemn scene,
As pensive " thro' the long-drawn aisles " I stray.

Here oft' has Britain's royal pageant pass'd,
And titled pride her gaudy charms display'd ;
Here wou'd the crowd with pagan ardour haste
T' adore the idol that their folly made.

Yet, a few seasons fled, the train return'd,
With hearts untouch'd to mimic sorrow's gloom ;
With woe's grimace the pompous herald mourn'd,
And lavish'd flatt'ry o'er the senseless tonib.

Here jarring statesmen meet, once haughty foes,
Who spurn'd indignant at a rival's pow'r ;
There beauty withers like the blushing rose,
The fragrant pride of summer's transient hour.

The votive song to Delia's vernal bloom,
Vibrates no raptures on her deafen'd ear ;
Ev'n proud Ambition stoops beneath a tomb,
And Pleasure's syren voice is silent there.

Dumb, too, the minstrel's harp, whose magic lays
Arous'd the valiant breast to deeds of fame ;
Yet time shall spare the virtuous poet's praise,
And age to age repeat his honour'd name.

Yet here, till Wisdom fly the British coast,
Oft-times the musing moralist shall come,
Hedlefs of Grandeur's monumental boast,
To seek, good Addison, thy humbler tomb.

And long thy precepts, with resistless pow'r,
Shall lure the wand'rer to the shrine of Truth ;
Chase puerile Folly from life's ev'ning-hour,
And whisper caution to impetuous Youth.

Nor view'd with careless eye the recent grave
Of Johnson, moral Mentor of our age,
Tho' mark'd by Superstition for her slave,
Tho' Bigotry deform th' historic page.

Lo ! where the sage, by list'ning crowds rever'd,
Whose well-earn'd honours grateful Science paid,
And chiefs whose prowess steel-clad legions fear'd,
Repose alike in Death's oblivious shade.

No victor's shout, no soothing voice of fame,
Shall pierce the gloomy caverns of the ground ;
But Darkness there her silent empire claim,
Till Nature hear the trump celestial sound.

And is it thus the various ranks of men,
The mean, the wife, the tyrant, and the slave,
Whate'er thro' devious life their path had been,
All meet at last associates in the grave ?

Then why shou'd Pen'ry mourn her lowly birth,
Or titl'd Pride assume the brow of scorn ?
From life's last scene, since all but moral worth,
Flies like night visions at the song of morn !

Hence let Ambition's vot'ries fondly dream,
Of wealth's heap'd treasures, and the dome of state,
At Honour's shrine indulge the airy scheme,
Or crowd obsequious round Preferment's gate :

Be rather mine, to bend in Virtue's fane,
Her cares, her duties, and her joys to know ;
The sigh of Want to hear, the shriek of Pain,
And with Compassion's gen'rous warmth to glow.

Be mine, Religion, of thy hope possest'd,
Tranquil to finisht life's eventful hour,
My mem'ry dear to some congenial breast,
My sod by Friendship strew'd with many a flow'r.

Feb. 15, 1796.

I. T. R.

PARAPHRASE OF MR. GRAY'S LATIN ODE, WRITTEN AT THE GRAND CHARTREUSE.

"*Oh tu severi religio loci,*" &c.

BY MR. MARSH, OF THE TEMPLE.

WHOE'ER thou art, that rul'st with sway supreme

The lonely horrors of this wild retreat,
(For 'mid each hoary wood, and faintest stream,
No common God has fix'd his chosen seat ;

Tho' to thy name no stately pile aspires,
Within whose womb the polish'd marble shines ;
No holy vestals watch immortal fires,
No sacred treasures gild the splendid shrines.

While o'er rough rocks, rude cliffs, and savage hills,
With sacred dread the sounding footstep moves,
Who does not know, no vulgar influence fills
This wild of waters, and this gloom of groves ?)

Oh ! hear invok'd, for this thy suppliant prays,
That here his weary'd youth may gently grow,
That these blest shades may screen his future days
Alike from human life and human woe.

But should imperious Fate the boon deny,
The only boon the ling'ring pilgrim craves,
Shou'd Fortune doom him still again to try
The storms that brood amidst her boist'rous waves ;

Oh, grant him, Genius, in your silent bow'rs,
Far from each hated toil, each vulgar strife,
In solitude to wear his later hours,
And glide unconscious down the tide of life.

Feb. 24, 1796.

A BRIEF

A BRIEF ACCOUNT
OF THE
STATE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
IN
E U R O P E.

THE commencement of the year 1796 found many nations of Europe still involved in the bloody and disastrous war, which, springing from the French Revolution, has now shed its baneful influence over several years. Though some of the powers concerned have withdrawn from the contest, and the field of contention has been narrowed, enough still remains to make the friend of mankind anxiously solicitous for the conclusion of scenes of hostility spread, more or less, through all the quarters of the globe. The portion, however, of the new year, which has hitherto passed, has rather been a state expectation and preparation, than of action. Since the expulsion of the French from the eastern side of the Rhine, the mutual losses and wants of the armies, together with the wetness of the season, have obliged the Imperial and Republican generals to consent to an armistice, which at one time gave sanguine hopes of being the prelude to a peace; but these seem at present to have vanished, and the dreadful preparations for a renewal of all the horrors of war at its expiration, are carrying on by both parties with incessant diligence. The success of the French in Italy, likewise, appears to have been followed by a state of inaction, probably owing to the deficiency of resources on both sides. Meantime, a most uncommon duration of south-westerly winds, attended with frequent tempests, has prevented the mighty armament, fitted out by Great Britain, at an immense expence of time and money, for the West Indies, from proceeding on its destination; and has even forced it back into port, after undergoing multiplied hardships and losses. In consequence, none of the important enterprizes, planned beyond the Atlantic, have yet been entered upon, but a petty and marauding war has been carried on in the islands, more productive of distress than of change.

MONTHLY MAG. No. I.

We shall now proceed to give a sketch of the political state of the several countries from the commencement of the year, beginning with

FRANCE.

The greatest vigour and activity appear to be exhibited in the military department of Paris; the requisitions of young men are strictly enforced; and every exertion is making to equip and to supply the armies. The French administration seem disposed to manifest to their enemies, that though they may be inclined to peace, they are, notwithstanding, prepared for war. The forced loan, which was expected to have excited some commotion, has been submitted to with a degree of readiness, which has exceeded the expectations, even of the friends to the republic. The two legislative councils appear also to have applied themselves, with great diligence, to the arrangement and melioration of the French finances.

On the 25th of January, 1796, the executive directory addressed to the council of ancients, the following message; which, as we consider it as an important paper, we shall lay entire before our readers:

“ Citizen Legislators,

“ The enemies of France have spoken of peace, but it was to relax our preparations, while they themselves redoubled their efforts for continuing the war. They wish to weaken the courage of our defenders, by lulling them with the hopes of approaching peace, which they themselves do not cease to elude by the most evasive forms, and the most frivolous pretexts. This perfidy on their part is not new: and the reports which they have affected to circulate on this subject, since the commencement of hostilities, have always been seized and believed by the foreign faction, which they maintain among us. But these manœuvres have never been countenanced by the executive directory, who, in offering peace to the coalesced powers, on conditions as moderate as are consistent

ent with the national dignity, have neglected nothing for assuring new triumphs to the republican arms.

" The French should know that they never can have peace with their enemies, till they shall have rendered it impossible for them to pursue their disastrous projects. This epoch is not far off; it must crown a vigorous campaign, and we have reason to think, that that which is about to be opened, will yield in nothing to that of the third year. The government already acquires strength, and the hopes of the enemies of the interior, of a disagreement between the legislative body and the directory daily disappear; the circulation of provisions begins to be re-established; the young citizens are desirous of rejoining their colours; the general activity contributes to second the salutary and decisive measure of the forced loan; the certainty, in short, of seeing all the factious punished, whether their royalism be open or concealed, whether they dissemble it under the last forms of anarchy; every thing announces that if we are forced by our implacable enemies to cover still their bloody plains with our soldiers, it will be to gain new laurels, to enjoy from henceforward the unalterable repose, that is assured by the constitution, sworn to by all Frenchmen, and the return of morality and justice, the love of labour and economy. Citizens legislators, you are aware that what renders the service so painful in the present moment, notwithstanding the prodigious resources which are still to be found in the republic, is the absence of representative signs of exchange, swallowed up by that avarice, which renders it impossible to provide the necessary supplies for the armies. We must devise some substitute, and the directory can perceive no other except that of raising articles in kind, at least those which are at present most necessary and indispensable, such as horses for carriages, and for the use of cavalry.

" The principal cause of the ill success of the last campaign, was the deficiency of the means of conveyance, and the superiority of our enemies' cavalry. The evil increased every day, and we are obliged to tell you, citizens legislators, that if there is not taken, in this respect, a measure prompt and efficacious, we must expect defeats. The directory requests that you will authorize it to raise the thirtieth horse in every part of the republic. Experience assures the success of this measure; all others

will only have doubtful consequences, slow, attended with much expence, and the sending out a prodigious quantity of specie.

" The directory is not determined to make to the legislative body the proposition of an extraordinary levy of hories, till after the subject has been long considered, and it shall be sensible that there exists no other means of assuring the service.

" This levy shall be made by the administrative bodies. The legislative body may itself state the mode of the execution, or leave it to the directory, who will follow the most economical and the least vexatious to the citizens; whatever decision you may make in this respect, circumstances require that this measure may not be deferred.

" Citizens legislators, the directory invites the council to take the object of its demand into the most serious and the most prompt consideration.

" REUBELL, President."

This recommendation of a levy of every thirtieth horse, throughout the whole of the republic, has been followed up by a decree of the council of five hundred, empowering them to take the necessary steps for that purpose. The proprietors are to be paid according to the value of the animal: brood mares and stallions are excepted.

Among the other events relative to this country, may be mentioned the exchange of the daughter of the unfortunate LOUIS XVI, for the captive French commissioners—a circumstance on both sides favourable to humanity. It appears, however, to be the determination of the imperial court, who have received the illustrious orphan, to break off, as much as possible, all connections between her and her father's late subjects, even those the most attached to the principles of the old monarchy.

The disturbances in La Vendée are still far from being settled; and the Chouans continue their ravages over a considerable part of the late province of Britanny, which prevents the peaceable inhabitants from enjoying that security, which the defeat of all foreign attempts on their coast would otherwise afford them. Considerable troubles have likewise arisen in the South of France, to quell which, detachments have been sent from the French army in Italy; and tranquillity seems at present to be tolerably restored in those parts. The capital itself appears to be in an unusual state

state of quiet; nor do we now hear much of the distress proceeding from scarcity of the necessaries of life.

GERMANY.

Austria. The suspension of arms between the Emperor and France, has been chiefly employed by the former in providing supplies from all quarters, of men and money, for the vigorous renewal of warlike operations, as soon as it shall have expired. For this purpose, the states of the Empire have been assembled at Ratisbon, in order to vote their contingents in money, under the name of Roman months; and from the majority of them, the Emperor has obtained part, or the whole of his demands. Mean time, a new loan of three millions from Great Britain is supposed to be agreed upon, and part of it is said to have been already received. Moreover, Russia has been engaged to afford her assistance more heartily than she has hitherto done; and the triple alliance between Austria, Russia, and England, has been strengthened by the ties of mutual interest. Yet peace is on all hands allowed to be the great object for which Germany is contending, and which, from scarcity, and the immense losses in men and money, is become more and more necessary for her.

Prussia. The repose which the king of Prussia has procured to his subjects, by the separate peace which has been made so heavy a charge on his honour, continues undisturbed; nevertheless, his necessary association with the other plunderers of Poland, has lately obliged him to enter into a new alliance with those powers, which is supposed to have some farther ambitious schemes in view. It was strongly reported that his motions some time ago indicated a design of falling upon Holland; but this conclusion appears to have been premature. Yet his openly countenancing the Orange faction in that country, and his complaints of the French for supposed violations of the line of demarcation, and some other of the conditions of peace, seem to favour a doubt that his resumption of arms would be a consequence of any favourable opportunity to aggrandize himself, should the war much longer continue.

HOLLAND.

The most important business, which appears at present to agitate the republic of HOLLAND, is the election of a National Convention. As there was a considerable degree of aristocracy in the old Dutch republic, it was probable, that

this measure would meet with opposition; but almost all the provinces appear now to have testified their concurrence in it. And in a late memorial, delivered, by the French envoy at the Hague, to the grefier of the States-general, it is said, "The attention of the Executive Directory of France will be continually employed on the situation of the United Provinces, to avert every storm, and promote the election of a National Convention, from which that people, the friend and ally of the French, must alone expect their safety and their glory." It is also said, in the same paper, "In vain shall England endeavour by her gold to create dissention between Holland and France: the two allies, by the power of their arms, and the wisdom of their councils, will stifle in its birth the germ of all such dissention."

ITALY.

Sardinia. The king of Sardinia, though subsidised by England, has suffered so much from the war, that an accommodation between him and the French republic is supposed not to be far distant. In addition to his distresses, an insurrection in the island of Sardinia, which has almost proceeded to a civil war, must render peace still more necessary to him. *Milan* and the other imperial possessions in Italy were imagined to be reduced to imminent danger, from the annihilation of the army of general *DE VINS*; but the French not having pushed their success as was expected, the alarm in those countries has somewhat subsided. Still, however, it is imagined that the vulnerable state of these wealthy and important parts of the Emperor's dominions, may induce the French to make a push for obtaining that peace by successes in Italy, which they failed of doing in Germany. *Venice* has lately armed a squadron for a cruise in their seas, which, according to the policy of that state, can have no other object than self-defence. *Genoa* is still exposed to the injuries and insults of those of the contending powers, who possess a temporary superiority in her neighbourhood.

Corsica, the new jewel in the British crown, seems to be a prey to civil discontent and commotions.

SPAIN.

Whether this power will long maintain the neutrality, which its peace with the French republic has given it, is a matter of much doubt. Its marine has been continually increasing since that

period; and the troops in the lines of St. Roche have been augmenting. There is little doubt, that it now looks upon England with a more jealous eye than it did upon France; and it is not probable, that it can make good the cession of half the island of St. Domingo, to the latter power, without the aid of an armed force. A Spanish squadron has lately sailed from Cadiz to California, with the intention of taking possession of some of the lands discovered by MEARES and other English navigators—a ready occasion for new quarrels, if other circumstances enforce them!

RUSSIA.

The ambitious and able mistress of this overgrown empire, who from the commencement of the present disturbances, has rather kept in the back ground, contenting herself with usurpations on her wretched neighbour, Poland (now in reality expunged from the map of Europe) seems at present to be meditating schemes of more extent and activity. Closely engaged in offensive and defensive alliance with the courts of Vienna and London, and likewise, as it lately appears, with her fellow plunderer of Prussia, she probably thinks herself able to overawe her two northern neighbours, Sweden and Denmark, while she renewes her often repeated attacks on the splendid relics of the Ottoman empire. Whether her promised co-operation against France will ever amount to more than cautious and indirect efforts, may well be doubted, while she has so much more gainful schemes to pursue.

Sweden and Denmark, steadily persevering in their plan of neutrality, and in making commercial advantages of the difficulties in which the other maritime powers are involved, have lately afforded nothing new to the political observer.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The objects which have principally occupied men's minds in this country since the commencement of the present year, have been, the scarcity of provisions, and the alternations of hope and fear respecting the equipment destined for the West Indies;—to which may be added, earnest longings after peace, from what quarter soever it may be expected. For remedying the scarcity, the chief reliance hitherto has been placed on voluntary associations among the higher and middling classes, for diminishing in their families the consumption of bread, especially that made from

wheat, and employing mixtures of inferior grain, or other substitutes. Recommendations of this plan have been sent by the bishops of the several dioceses to the clergy of every parish in the kingdom, and enforced by all the influence of government. But so inadequate have these means as yet proved, that the assize of bread has within the last week had a considerable rise, which has brought it to the most alarming and unprecedented rate of 1s. 3d. the quartre loaf. Butcher's meat, butter, and other articles of food have become proportionally dear. Yet, with this absolute inability of the poor to subsist their families, by the utmost exertions of their industry, the kingdom was never in a state of more perfect tranquillity; and even the common opposition to ministerial measures, when unsuccessful or unpopular, seems to be suspended. The hand of necessity lies heavy upon all classes, and sinks them in silent despondence. A fond hope of better times is eagerly fostered, from the grand project of cultivating the waste lands of the kingdom, warmly taken up by the Board of Agriculture, and planned for immediate execution by means of a general inclosure bill now before the House of Commons.

With respect to the West India expedition, on which so much was supposed to depend both for conquest and defence in that part of the world, it has already been mentioned, that after long struggling with contrary and inclement winds, it was obliged to returned into harbour, at the time when the public generally hoped that it was far on its way towards its destined ports. From the first alarming accounts of its misfortunes, great fears were entertained respecting its safe return. Several losses were, indeed, sustained, and many ships were so shattered as to be rendered entirely unfit for the expedition. But, on the whole, the absolute loss of men and vessels was much less than could have been supposed. The intention of making one grand fleet of the whole is now given up; and the transports and merchant ships are to make their way in detachments, as they can be got ready. A considerable number are now supposed to have commenced their voyage with favourable winds and weather.

The earnest wish for peace was lately evinced from an extraordinary circumstance. By the contrivance of some gamblers in the funds, a forged French newspaper was produced, containing preliminaries

preliminaries for a treaty of peace between France and the Empire. Though the supposed conditions were extremely favourable to the Republic, so little was the object of the war regarded on the Stock Exchange, in comparison with a prospect of general peace, that the funds experienced a very considerable rise, and large sums were made by the sellers while the delusion lasted.

The circumstances of the late loan have been the subject of much discussion, as well in parliament, where an enquiry is now pending, as in the political circles and among the monied men; and severe attacks have been made on the minister's financial operations, the issue of which, we shall not attempt to predict. But the want of money for the speculations of commerce, which now begins to be seriously felt, and which has produced unusual checks upon the practice of discounting bills at the Bank, is likely to add a powerful motive for dissatisfaction with the continuance of a war, now without an object.

The humane opposers of the Slave-trade have been flattered, and perhaps surprised, with the success of Mr. Wilberforce's motion in the House of Commons, for bringing in a bill for its immediate and total abolition; to which, however, that House was pledged by a previous resolution. But how far the House of Lords will second their benevolent purpose, is yet to be tried.

The poor laws, now unfortunately a matter of capital importance, have lately undergone much investigation; and there is reason to expect some considerable alteration of the whole system, from the attention now paid to the subject in parliament.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

AFTER an unusual adjournment, during the whole of the month of January, the House of Commons again assembled on the 2d of February, when a report from a committee, relative to the waste lands, was brought up by Sir John Sinclair. No very material business occurred in the house for several days after; but, on the 8th of the month, a very singular petition, but which contained curious and important observations respecting the national taxes, was presented, on the 8th of February, from Sir Francis Blake, Bart. the purport of which was to show, that, as all the taxes and imposts laid upon trade,

fall ultimately on the landed proprietors, the whole national revenue might be raised directly by a land-tax. That as the increased value of land has always been in proportion to the flourishing state of commerce, the way to advance the price of land, is to give every possible encouragement to trade; and that burthening trade, is in effect to burthen land, besides depressing it. In consequence of these ideas, he requested that he might be permitted to charge his estates with 30,000 as his share of the public debt, and to pay interest for that sum, in lieu of all other taxes.

The same day, Mr. Manning presented a petition from a number of merchants, resident in the cities of London and Westminster, and the borough of Southwark, for leave to bring in a bill, to enable them to establish new wet docks, and legal quays and wharfs, upon the river Thames, according to some plans presented with the petition, as the increased commerce of the country required such accommodation. The lord-mayor of London then rose, and observed, that he agreed with the petitioners, that the increased commerce of the country, required additional accommodations, but that the proposed act would greatly trench on the franchises and immunities of the city, would throw out of employ many hundred persons, who were subsisted by the wharfage business; and farther, that the corporation of London had already agreed upon certain plans of improvement, and had allotted seven or eight hundred thousand pounds to carry them into execution.

The petition was referred to the consideration of a committee.

Feb. 9. Mr. W. Smith brought up the report of a committee, appointed to inquire into the negotiation of the late loan; which was ordered to lie on the table, and to be printed. It consists of no fewer than forty articles.

Feb. 11. Mr. M. Robinson made a motion, for leave to bring in a bill, to prevent any member of the house of commons from taking a share in any loans, which might hereafter be voted to a foreign prince. Foreign loans, he observed, were the most dangerous mode of parliamentary corruption. He had been informed, that, in the last imperial loan, it was in the power of every member of parliament to put 12,000l. into his pocket. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grey, but opposed by the chancellor of the exchequer. Mr. Pitt asserted,

serted, that foreign loans were not more liable to be abused as instruments of corruption, than domestic loans; and he did not see why parliament should pass any act to encumber the negociation of a foreign loan in future, when it might be much for the interest of the country, that such a loan should be granted. Mr. Fox testified his approbation of the motion of Mr. Robinson; and gave it as his opinion, that this country ought never to assist a foreign potentate by way of loan, because it was risking, not only for ourselves, but for our posterity, a great pecuniary loss, for which it was impossible for us at present to provide. Mr. Robinson's motion was negatived by a considerable majority.

The order of the day, on Feb. 12th, for the second reading of a bill for regulating the wages of labourers being read, Mr. Whitebread, jun. observed, that the object of the bill was important, and that its urgency was pressing, but that of the means proposed for its attainment, it belonged to the house to decide.

Feb. 15. Mr. Grey moved, "That an humble address be presented to his majesty, entreating his majesty to take such measures, as to his royal wisdom may seem fit, for communicating directly to the government of the French republic, his readiness to enter into a negociation for restoring the blessings of peace, upon terms equitable and honourable to both countries."

In support of his motion, he observed, that, by a late royal message, it had been stated, that the government of France was capable of maintaining the relations of peace and amity with other nations, and he had hoped that the opinion expressed in that message would have rendered his present application unnecessary. He had hoped that his majesty's ministers seeing Europe every where desolated and bleeding, would have been anxious to restore the blessings of peace. But after this interval, and notwithstanding the declaration of his majesty's ministers, it did not appear that we were one iota nearer a peace than before. It did now appear that his majesty's ministers intended to prosecute the war. They had, indeed, changed their language, but not their purposes; and they were hurrying on another campaign while they were talking of peace.

Mr. Grey urged, with great strength, a variety of arguments against the continuation of the war, and in support of peace; but he was opposed by Mr. Pitt,

who, after some preliminary observations on the nature of the confidence, to which ministers were entitled, observed, that no opportunity of negociation had been rejected by the ministry, but that measures had absolutely been taken to ascertain the dispositions of the enemy, and to pave the way for overtures from either side. He added, "If a negociation should be entered into, it is evident, that in order to give it its full effect, we should be careful not only to keep up the strict letter of our engagements with our allies, but to maintain with them full concert and harmony. I have only to say, that acting upon this principle, no regard to the form of government, no difficulty as to the mode of communication, no punctilio of etiquette, no delicacy as to the first proposition of overtures shall be found to stand in the way of negociation. Such measures have already been taken, as, if the enemy are sincere in their dispositions for peace, must speedily lead to negociation. I admit, that the honourable gentleman, in his speech, separated negociation from the terms. But in other passages, he talked of negociation as leading to an immediate peace. I beg leave, by nothing I have said, to be understood to hold out the idea of immediate peace, or of peace at any period; I only wish that it may be known, that if negociation be not speedily put in a train, it is not our fault, and that the blame must rest on the dispositions of the enemy. If the dispositions of the enemy shall have become more moderate, our prospects of that desirable event must certainly be greatly accelerated. But sorry I am to state, that strong as is my desire of peace, and confessedly weak as are the means of the enemy for carrying on the war, they have not yet made any declarations which can dispose us to give them credit for their moderation with respect to peace. I must, at the same time, confess, that I know nothing on the subject, but from the communications of the Directory, and from a paper which has been circulated with much industry here, and also on the continent.—This paper is said to contain the terms on which they are willing to hold out the boon of peace to the people of England. If they will abandon all their interests, if they will renounce all those continental alliances, which have been supposed to be connected with the fundamental policy of this country, and the general safety of Europe; if they will sacrifice their

their good faith, and give up all the acquisitions which have been made by the valour and energy of their troops, then, we are told, that in return, the French nation will honour the people of England with their fraternization. I hope I shall not be told that I am insincere in my wishes for peace, if I am not forward to accept of a treaty on such terms.

"There is only one situation which, in my opinion, could induce a minister of this country to bend to so humiliating a necessity, namely, the weakness and timidity of the nation, proclaimed through the medium of Parliament, in adopting a motion like the present. If this motion be not adopted, and it be asked what overtures we will be disposed to receive, or what answer we will make to any proposition for negociation, I have only to repeat what I have already declared, that "measures have already been set on foot to ascertain the disposition of the enemy, and whatever be the result, that nothing shall be wanting on the part of the government of this country, to encourage a disposition to negotiate on moderate and equitable terms. I am persuaded, that if we and our allies are not wanting to ourselves, we shall be able to restore Peace on reasonable and honourable terms, and that nothing but dishonourable timidity or undue precipitation, can possibly disappoint us in the attainment of that object."

Mr. Fox made a long and eloquent speech in support of Mr. Grey's motion; and said, that he hoped, that the interests of humanity, as well as of kings and particular states, would be consulted, and that peace and tranquillity would be re-established, on the broad basis of justice, in answer to the prayers of mankind, who are now fatigued with war, with slaughter, and with devastation. The motion of Mr. Grey was rejected, by a large majority, 189 against 50.

Feb. 17. Mr. Curwen made some observations on the unconstitutional and oppressive principles of the Game Laws, and moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend them. Mr. Buxton asserted, that the Game Laws of this country were inconsistent with the constitution; and declared it to be his opinion, that let the landed property of any man be ever so small, he ought to have the right of killing the game upon it. Leave was granted to bring in the bill.

Feb. 18. Mr. Wilberforce moved for leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of the Slave Trade, at a limited time, and also that the house should re-

solve itself into a committee upon the said motion. He observed, that, by a former resolution of that house, the slave trade was to expire on the first of January, 1796. That expiration had not yet taken place; but it was his duty, to call for the execution of that decree. We think it unnecessary to enter into the particulars of a discussion on a subject, which has been so often brought before the public; it is sufficient to say, that after a debate, in which Mr. Wilberforce was supported by Mr. Pitt, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Courtney, and Sir R. Hill, and opposed by Mr. Dundas, Gen. Tarleton, and Sir W. Young, the motion was carried by a majority of 26, viz. 93 to 67.

THE PUBLIC FUNDS.

Stock-Exchange, Feb. 23, 1796.

STOCKS have experienced little fluctuation during the last month. The forged news of a Convention for Peace, though generally credited for a whole day, did not occasion any great demand. This circumstance strengthens a common opinion, that even the return of Peace, would occasion but a small and temporary rise in future, compared with former periods. In the mean time, the continuance of the war, the increasing scarcity of money, and the stoppage of discounts, added to the rumour of a rupture with Spain, are circumstances which altogether, we apprehend, threaten a considerable fall.

BANK STOCK, on the 23d of last month, was at $177\frac{1}{2}$ —it fell, till the 5th of the present month, to $174\frac{1}{2}$ —on the 12th, it was at 176—has fallen again, and is this day, the 23d, at 174.

3 PER CENT. CONSOLS were, on the 23d ult. at $69\frac{1}{2}$ —they fell, till the 5th of this month, to $67\frac{3}{4}$ —on the 12th, they rose to $68\frac{1}{2}$, and are this day, the 23d of February, at $68\frac{1}{4}$.

4 PER CENT. CONSOLS were, on the 23d ult. at $85\frac{1}{2}$ —fell, till the 5th ult. to 84—rose to $84\frac{1}{2}$ on the 12th, and are this day, the 23d of February, at $84\frac{1}{4}$.

5 PER CENT. ANN. were, on the 23d of February, at $101\frac{1}{2}$ —fell, till the 5th ult. to $99\frac{1}{2}$ —rose on the 12th to $100\frac{1}{2}$ —and are, at this time, at $100\frac{1}{4}$.

OMNIUM has fallen, in the same period, from $10\frac{1}{4}$ premium to $8\frac{1}{4}$; and the Bank have formally announced their refusal to take it in pawn for the payments that are becoming due.

INDIA STOCK has fallen, since Jan. 23, from 215 to $213\frac{1}{4}$.

SOUTH SEA STOCK, shut.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

OF the subjects of human knowledge, law is far from being the least important; within these last fifty years, not only general law, but the particular law of the country in which we live, has been considered as an object of liberal enquiry, and well deserving the attention of the general scholar: we apprehend, therefore, that our miscellany might be thought defective, if we left this subject altogether untouched.—In the course of every year, some new law is made, or some modifications or alterations are introduced into the old, by the acts of the legislature; and some questions of general concern are discussed and decided, or some subject of curiosity arises in the courts of justice—It is our intention to present our readers with an account of all as they arise, so far as our limits will permit.—When any new law is made, or modification or alteration introduced into the old, we mean not only to state the substance of such new law or of such modification or alteration, where they appear to us to be of general concern; but to explain the occasion of the one, and the operation of the other on the law, as it stood before.—Of the cases which occur in the courts of justice, we mean to select those which shall appear to us most interesting from the nature of the facts, or most important from the points decided.

It will seldom happen that our limits will permit us to give a detail of facts; we shall never do it but when they are peculiarly interesting: in general, we shall confine ourselves to state so much as may appear necessary, to render intelligible the point decided:—Sometimes, though a case may furnish us with no new decision, yet we may insert it, from its having a reference to an old law, which is now become an object of mere curiosity; and which we shall then take occasion to explain.

Claim of the Solicitor to the Treasury, to attend the Grand Jury on the Examination of Witnesses, in Cases of Indictments for High Treason.

ON the prosecutions for high treason, in the year 1794, the solicitor for the treasury asserted this claim, and it was admitted, the grand jury not opposing it. At the sessions of January last, at the Old Bailey, when the clerk of the arraigns presented to the grand jury the

bill against Crossfield, Smith, Higgins, and Le Maitre, he observed, "That when they entered upon it, the solicitor of the treasury, who acted for the attorney-general, would attend the examination of the witnesses." After having for some time deliberated on this intimation, the jury sent for the clerk of the arraigns, and desired him to inform the solicitor, that they conceived themselves competent and duly authorized, to examine the witnesses, whatever might be the subject of the indictment; and that therefore his attendance would not be admitted; the clerk of the arraigns replied, "That the attorney-general had been admitted in cases of the like nature, and that if the jury had any doubts, the court, on application, would give their opinion." The foreman, therefore, when he delivered into court the bills against other prisoners, on which they had determined, requested the opinion of the chief baron, whether the solicitor demanded admittance as a matter of right? — The chief baron replied, "That the attorney-general had an undoubted right to be admitted during such examination, and that the solicitor for the treasury might be admitted for the attorney-general, whose time was perhaps occupied by other matters of importance." — When the jury entered on the indictment, and proceeded to call the witnesses, they were interrupted by the solicitor, requesting to be admitted; this being granted, he desired their proceedings on the indictment might be postponed till next day, as he wished to consult the attorney-general—The foreman observed, they could not comply with this request; that they had taken up the indictment in the usual manner, and should proceed to investigate the truth of the allegations contained in it.

Trial for High Treason.

IN the last term, William Stone was tried at the bar in the court of King's Bench, on an indictment for high treason. The indictment was founded on two distinct branches of the statute of Edward the Third; it charged him with compassing the king's death, and adhering to the king's enemies: on each of these charges, eleven overt acts were stated, the most material of which was conspiring with his brother John Hartford Stone, and William Jackson, to give

give information to the French government, in what quarter they might be most likely to succeed in a projected invasion of his majesty's dominions.

John Harford Stone was resident in Paris; Jackson had come over to England, employed, as was stated by the attorney-general, to pave the way for the invasion, and to examine whether England or Ireland was the most vulnerable place of attack—He was introduced to W. Stone, by a letter from his brother, J. H. Stone, for the purpose, as was contended on the part of the prosecution, of forwarding this scheme of invasion: on the part of the prisoner, it was contended, that whatever might have been the intention of Jackson and J. H. Stone, it was never communicated to W. Stone; that the letters by which Jackson was introduced to him, related merely to a scheme of illicit commerce, from which great private emolument was expected; that this was the ostensible object held out by Jackson to William Stone, who had no suspicion of Jackson having any treasonable purpose in view; and that Jackson not meeting with that encouragement which he expected from William Stone, and not being seconded by him even in his scheme of illicit commerce, went over to Ireland, where he expected better success.—From the letters of J. H. Stone to W. Stone, it appeared, that the former had frequently suggested to the latter, the probability of an invasion of this country from France; two papers, drawn up by different persons, with whom W. Stone had had communication on the subject, were produced by the attorney-general, as a proof of Mr. Stone's treasonable purpose.—These papers contained a description of the state of the country, and arguments to show the improbability of an invasion succeeding here.—On the intention with which they were procured by Mr. Stone, depended the question of his guilt or innocence—On his part, it was asserted, that his only intention in procuring them, was to make such use of them, as might avert from his country the dreadful calamities which must necessarily attend an invasion of it by an enemy, whether that invasion should or should not succeed; and that they had no reference, at least in the mind of Mr. Stone, to the treasonable designs of Jackson.—The attorney-general insisted that the only use Mr. Stone intended to make of them, was to divert the attention of

the French government from this country, where he thought there was no probability of their success, and to direct it to Ireland, where they might have better hopes: to prove this to have been Mr. Stone's intention, and to connect him with Mr. Jackson, the attorney-general produced two letters from Jackson, addressed to persons at Hamburg and Amsterdam; one of which contained a transcript of one of the papers which had been procured by Mr. Stone, in England, and the other afforded no internal evidence of having a reference to any communication between Stone and Jackson.—Other collateral circumstances were given in evidence, from which it was contended, the jury ought to conclude that Stone was privy to Jackson's designs, which, it was not denied by the counsel for Mr. Stone, were of a treasonable nature.—The trial lasted two days, and the jury having withdrawn, returned, in about three hours, a verdict of acquittal.

In this case, two points of evidence were ruled, 1st, That the letter of Jackson to the person at Amsterdam or Hamburg, which afforded no internal evidence of having a reference to a communication between Stone and Jackson, was nevertheless *admissible* on this trial, to show the designs of Jackson, which, it was decided, were evidence against Stone, if the conspiracy between them were satisfactorily made out.—2dly, A letter in the hand-writing of a clerk of Mr. Stone, addressed to Jackson, was found among Jackson's papers, and purported to have been written by Mr. Stone's direction—this was rejected on the ground, that Mr. Stone's clerk was not produced, to prove that it had been so written,

STANDING MUTE. *Peine forte & dure.*

A case seldom occurs of a person standing mute, on his being arraigned for a crime. Such a case, however, has lately happened; at the last January sessions at the Old Bailey, a boy, *deaf and dumb*, was indicted for stealing a watch, of the value of one guinea. A prisoner is said to stand mute, when being arraigned for treason or felony, 1st, He makes no answer at all; 2dly, Answers foreign to the purpose, and will not answer otherwise; or, 3dly, Upon having pleaded Not guilty, refuses to put himself upon the country. If he say nothing, the course is as it always was, for the court to impanel a jury, to en-

quire whether he stands mute from malice, or by the visitation of God.—If the jury find the latter, the trial proceeds as if he had pleaded Not guilty ; but whether, if he be found guilty, judgment of death can be given against him, is a question yet undetermined : formerly, if he was found obstinately mute, the consequence, in case of indictment for high treason, petty larceny, and all misdemeanors, was, as it still is, that he received judgment and execution, as if he had been regularly convicted on a plea of Not guilty.—But, on appeals at the suit of the party, or on indictments for other felonies, or for petty treason, he was not considered as convicted, so as to receive judgment for the felony, but, for his obstinacy, received the sentence of *peine forte & dure*. This judgment was, that the prisoner should be remanded to the prison from whence he came, put into a low dark chamber, and there be laid on his back on the bare earth, without litter, rushes, or clothing, except where decency required a covering ; that one arm should be drawn to one quarter of the chamber with a cord, and the other arm to another quarter, and that his legs should be stretched out in the same manner ; that there should be laid upon his body, iron and stone, so much as he might bear, and more ; and the next day he was to have three morsels of barley bread, without any drink ; and the second, he was to drink thrice of the water that was next to the prison, except running water ; and in this situation, this was to be alternately his daily treatment, till he died or till he answered.

By standing mute, and suffering this heavy penance, the judgment in felony and petty treason, and of course the corruption of blood and escheat of the lands, were saved, though not the forfeiture of the goods ; and for this reason, it is probable this lingering punishment was introduced, in order to extort a plea ; without which, it was held, that no judgment of death could be given, and so the lord lost his escheat. This proceeding, however, was entirely abolished by a statute of the present reign*, by which it is enacted, that every person who being arraigned for felony or piracy, shall stand mute, or not answer directly to the offence, shall be convicted of the same, and the same judgment and execution, with all their consequences, in every respect, shall be thereupon awarded,

as if the person had been convicted by verdict or confession.

In the case which lately occurred, the prisoner was found mute by the visitation of God ; the trial therefore proceeded, and he was found guilty, and was sentenced to be whipped and discharged.

Sale by Auction.

A Mrs. Howard exposed a public-house to sale by auction ; it was knocked down to a Mr. Cassel, at the sum of 340 guineas : on his afterwards refusing to complete the purchase, it was set up to sale a second time, and knocked down to the plaintiff herself at 260 guineas. She brought an action against Cassel, to recover the difference between these two sums, and the expences attending the two sales. This was tried at Westminster, at the fittings after Hilary term last. It appeared that at the first sale, several puffers had bidden before the defendant, and that there were not any real bidders. Lord Kenyon observed, that as these premises were bought in for the plaintiff herself, it could not be said there was a second sale. He was strongly inclined to think the action could not be maintained : at an auction, he said, every thing should be fair and open, and those who attended as bidders, should really be in the character in which they appeared, that every man might have an opportunity of entering into a fair competition in the purchase. The jury, by his lordship's direction, found a verdict for the plaintiff, to the amount of the expences attending the second auction, subject to the opinion of the court of King's Bench, whether the action ought to be maintained.

Tuesday, Feb. 9, in the Court of King's Bench, one Booth, lately an overseer of Bowley, in the west-riding in Yorkshire, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment, for having used with great neglect and inhumanity, one Mercy Stace, a single woman, of seventeen, who was a pauper of the said parish, and, who actually died for want of common necessities.

Thursday the 18th, was tried in the Court of King's Bench, the action in which Mr. Jefferies, jeweller to the Prince of Wales, claimed of the Commissioners appointed by act of Parliament to discharge his Highness's debts, the sum of 54,685l. The Jury, which was special, brought in a verdict for the Plaintiff, for the sum of 50,997l. 10s.

RETROSPECTIVE

* 12 G. iii, c. 20.

RETROSPECTIVE VIEW OF THE DRAMA.

DRURY-LANE.

THIS Theatre, after experiencing a variety of alterations and improvements, opened under the management of Mr. KEMBLE.

October 20, 1795. The *Dependent*, a Comedy, written by Mr. CUMBERLAND, was performed here for the first time, but it was not received with that applause which generally accompanies the dramatic productions of this literary veteran. One of the principal characters was the "Ezekiel Daw" of his own "Henry." *Withdrawn.*

Nov. 23. This evening witnessed the revival of LEE's "Rival Queens," with the addition of a prefatory battle in dumb show. Kemble supported his usual character in the part of Alexander. Applauded.

January 18, 1796. The tragedy of Douglas was followed by a new Pantomime called "Harlequin Captive, or the Magic Fire." The scenery, in the excellence of which consists one of the chief beauties of this species of entertainment, was well executed, and contrived in such a manner as to appear apposite to a story replete with incident.

25. A new comedy, called "The Man of Ten Thousand," written by Mr. HOLCROFT, was represented for the first time before a crowded and brilliant audience.

The plot, which is well calculated to expose the hollowness and insincerity of fashionable friendships, excites interest. Miss FARREN, dressed *à la Grec*, attracted the attention of the audience rather by the elegance of her person and drapery, than the consequence of her character. Party prejudice, which ought never to appear within the walls of a playhouse, made a feeble and unsuccessful attempt to defraud the Author of his merit and emoluments.

Feb. 20. A new musical farce, by COBB, bearing the whimsical name of the "Shepherdess of Cheapside." Mr. BANNISTER's "Diaper" was well sustained. The introduction of a "Frenchman" gave offence; and, therefore, in all probability, will be omitted in future.

COVENT-GARDEN.

THIS season, like the former, commenced under the immediate direction of Mr. LEWIS, Deputy Manager.

Nov. 7, 1795. A new comedy called "Speculation," written by Mr. REY-

NOLDS, was acted for the first time, this evening.

The plot is an exposition of fraud, fortune-hunting, and projects; and one of the principal scenes lies in the King's Bench, a "college" to which these pursuits naturally lead.—Applauded. The epilogue, written by ANDREWS, and spoken by LEWIS, is humorous.

Jan. 25. "The Way to get Married," written by Mr. MORTON, was performed this night for the first time.

The heroine, JULIA FAULKNER, whose father is imprisoned in consequence of the arts of a pettifogger, exhibits an eminent degree of filial tenderness and exquisite sensibility, which fortunately prove the "Way to get Married." This is written in a light and humorous, but on the whole, an interesting style of comedy. The epilogue contained much severe, and perhaps too pointed ridicule, on a titled "buxom" Juliet, who, if we are not mistaken, has been for some time a grand-mother.

Feb. 2. A new musical farce, called "The Lock and Key," by Mr. HOARE. Much whim and oddity.

OPERA.

THIS Theatre so recently revived out of the ashes of the Old one, commenced a hitherto prosperous season, under the management of Mr. LE TEXIER.

Saturday, Jan. 16. While MADAME BANTI was advancing towards the audience, a poor sentinel, stuck up for hours, in imitation of the foreign theatres, as if he were a mere *automaton*, and overcome by the weight of his arms, and the heat and dizziness occasioned by the lights, fell down at her feet. This degrading custom ought to be abolished; for, the private injury apart, an English audience should never be used to the sight of a military police presiding over their public entertainments.

Feb. 2. A call was made from several parts of the house for new pieces and performers. The manager was not to be found, but the audience was pacified by a promise from Mr. KELLY.

16. *I traci Amici*, a new comic opera, composed by CIMAROSA, was well received. SIGNORA FABRIZZI, a comic singer, made her first appearance. Her voice is rather strong than sweet.

20. The most splendid opera for several years. MADAME ROSE and M. DELOT

DELOT made their first appearance in the new ballet of "Les Trois Sultanes," a piece devoid of novelty and interest, therefore but ill calculated for such an introduction. Didelot has been formerly

in England; Rose came forward on Saturday for the first time. She was the rival of **MILLARD** on the French Theatre.

FOREIGN NEWS.

SWEDEN.

THE courts of Sweden and Denmark have each of them recalled their seamen from the service of foreign powers, and forbidden such engagements hereafter.

POLAND.

WARSAW, Jan 7. Yesterday 12,000 Prussian troops, with a numerous artillery, took possession of this city. Till the barracks are rebuilt, they are quartered among the citizens. The German language is to be substituted for the Polish in the courts of judicature. The Prussian general, Wendessen, is our new governor. The portion of Poland, which Prussia has acquired by this and the former dismemberment of Poland, called Northern and Western Prussia, is 2684 square miles, containing upwards of two millions of souls.—The late king, Stanislaus, will spend the remainder of his days at Rome.

HOLLAND.

A provisional administration is to be erected in Holland, till their national convention has framed a new constitution.

Noal, the French representative in Holland, gave, at his late *fête*, ten toasts, celebrating the successes of the French, and attesting their good will to the Batavians. The concluding toast was as follows:—"May an universal philanthropy take place of national rivalships, of senseless wars, and of Machiavelian intrigues! May a respect for the life of man, a horror of blood, at length prevail in both worlds, and close the wounds of long groaning Humanity!"

Feb. 22. A Dutch squadron, of seven or eight sail of the line, and as many frigates, sailed from the Texel.

FRANCE.

Feb. 18. The Directory sent a message to the council of 500, that on the morrow, on the Place Vendome, the plates for the fabrication of assignats would be destroyed, and at the same time 890 millions of assignats. Accordingly, on the 14th, all the punches, matrices, and instruments, were melted down in a large furnace, erected for the purpose.

22. The council adopted the plan of a national bank, similar to those of Amsterdam, Venice, and London. The

mayor's late hotel is to be applied for the purpose.

In a late proclamation of the directory, it is stated, that the population of Paris is at this time 150,000 greater than at any former period.

Nantes, and the adjacent country, is infested with Chouans, who interrupt the communications.

Jan. 21. The anniversary of the last king of the French, was celebrated this day. The procession was to the Champ de Mars, where a monument, in honour of our fourteen armies, had been erected, near the altar of the country. The directory, and all the public functionaries, took the oath of fidelity to the republic, and of hatred to royalty. The army in the environs of Paris, which contains about 12,000 men, assisted at the ceremony. At noon all the constituted authorities assembled round a colossal statue, fitting like that of Liberty, but whose attributes seemed to represent Hercules or Strength. The directory presided in grand costume.

The patriotic airs of the *Marsilliois*, *Ca Ira*, *Veillons au salut de l'Empire*, *le Chant du Départ*, and a hymn by Lebrun, were sung. At two o'clock, the general oath of hatred to royalty was taken, and repeated with enthusiasm by the spectators.

Reubell delivered an address analogous to the *fête*. The army then filed off before the directory; the procession went to the military school, and the ceremony was concluded by a discharge of artillery.

[Among the immense fortunes gained by the French Revolution, is that made by a Jew from Altona, who arrived at Paris about April, 1795, with no more than 200 Louis d'ors in his pockets, and now possesses a superb hotel in the Fauxbourg St. Honore, for the furniture of which he paid 300,000 livres, in hard cash. He also bought a country seat, for 800,000 livres in specie, and is said to possess a fortune of 250 millions in assignats.—Another striking instance of that kind, is a man of the name of Carnaba, a wax and tallow chandler, who is become the possessor of the magnificent hotel of Richlieu, near the Faydeau Theatre, of eight or ten beautiful houses in Paris, and of the famous sugar-house on the banks of the Seine, a few leagues from the capital.]

ITALY.

The first sittings of the Corsican parliament have been short, and nothing particular determined upon. The refractory districts have refused to pay the imposts, and several persons have been taken into custody. Accounts of the 12th of January state, that the English are frequently massacred by the country people, and that the French emigrant corps do duty, instead of the English regiments.

In Italy, the French army of the Alps, extends itself all along the chain of mountains, from Suze to Aosta; the army of Italy joins the left wing of that of the Alps at Saluzzo, and describes a half-circle by Oneille, along the seashore to Savona, and then takes some positions on the Genoese territory, and advances over the Montserrat, as far as Alexandria.

PERSIA.

BAGDAD (in Turkish Persia) Oct. 29, 1795. Considerable changes are taking place in Persia, which will, in an especial manner, affect the interests of the Turkish empire. Aga Mahmet Kan, an eunuch, has twice defeated the young prince Loff Ali Kan, and is now master of Chiras, with all the treasures. The young prince has retreated to Keirinan, and has sent to claim the assistance of Russia; which, however, it seems, has formed a design to seize on some of the provinces! Prince Heraclius, at Testes, in Georgia, is in daily expectation of Russian reinforcements, to enable him to penetrate into the provinces of Chervan and Aderbeitzan.

AMERICA.

The American Congress have resolved, that foreign ships shall not import any other goods, but such as are the growth or manufacture of the nation to which the ships belong.

The legion lately employed to act against the hostile tribes of Western Indians, are kept embodied, for the farther purpose of taking possession of the posts now held by the British, in June next.

WEST-INDIES.

On the 20th, advices were received from the governor and several commanders, by the ministers of state, from Jamaica. These advices are more satisfactory than any that have been received from that place for some time past.—The yellow fever which had been so fatal, begins to decline apace.

The last accounts from Jamaica state, that the war with the Maroons is not terminated, as was expected. They have

collected themselves under the command of a single leader, and though reduced in number, and with resources equally diminished, are still likely to trouble the internal repose of the island, from the nature of the fastnesses in which they are entrenched.

Deaths Abroad.

Lately at Stockholm, Mr. Molinary, better known as an antiquary than for having been consul at Tunis: he left no less than 5790 pieces of ancient coin. Of these, there are 9 Arabian pieces in silver, 350 Roman pieces in silver, beginning with the head of POMPEY, and ending with that of ANTONINUS; 3070 pieces in bronze, of emperors, kings, cities, and private families; 260 pieces of ordinary metal, beginning with the head of SOLLONIA, and ending with that of HONORIUS.

At Venice, in Italy, Charles Sackville, esq. a partner in the banking-house of Sir Robert Herries and Co.

Dec. 6, last, at Gibraltar, Captain Charles Strickland, of the 82d regt. of foot.

In the Mediterranean, on board the Zealous man of war, of which he was commander, the right hon. Lord Hervey.

At Northumberland, in America, Mr. Henry Priestley, youngest son of Dr. P.

Jan. 9, in Norwich, North America, his excellency Samuel Huntington, governor of the state of Connecticut.

In a letter from a gentleman on board the Hannibal, of 74 guns, dated Jamaica, the 29th Nov. 1795, mention is made of the death of the following gentlemen belonging to that ship, of the yellow fever, viz. lieutenants Buller, Briskie, and Sergent; midshipmen Brandon, Martin, Walker, Harrison, and Cope; captain's clerks, Mr. Breadon and Mr. Jones; surgeon's mate, Mr. Collingson; schoolmaster, Mr. Biffell; and that during the month preceding, about 60 of her crew died of the same disorder.

At the island of Bermudas, on the 11th of Nov. last, captain Dixon, the circumnavigator.

On board the Basset, captain Purchase, in the Downs. William Lord Belhaven, a major in the army.

On board the Colosius man of war, Mr. Bullock, of Sunning, Berkshire. He fell overboard in the act of throwing the lead.

In the West-Indies, of the yellow fever, Mr. William Phinn, commander of the ship Planter.

At Montserrat, in the West-Indies, on the 3d of Dec. last, Mrs. Herbert, the lady of the hon. J. H. of that island.

On the 6th of Dec. last, at St. Vincent's, of a fever, Mr. Joseph Wilks, of his majesty's sloop Thorn.

On the 11th Dec. last, at Antigua, Charles Kerr, esq. an eminent merchant of that place.

On the 15th of Nov. last, in St. Domingo, William Hay, esq. second son of the hon W. H. of Lawfield, and captain of the 83d regiment of foot.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

London and Middlesex.

THE Admiralty have lately made trials of their telegraphs, and with the best success. Their chief trial has been to communicate an order to Admiral Peyton, in the Downs, directing him to transmit certain instructions, then specified, to Adm. Duncan. The time for communications passing from London to Deal, and from Deal to London, was 13 minutes and 37 seconds.—The telegraph at the Admiralty, since its being finished, has worked two or three times, in order to familiarize the men to the business of celerity, in case of necessity: it can, however, only be worked in very fine and clear weather with any utility.—The English telegraph is an improvement upon the French. Instead of the upright pole, with arms horizontally elevated on each side, we have adopted the following plan: upon a square frame, like the Venetian blinds to our windows, a numbers of shutters are either opened or shut, to denote particular things. The number of the combinations are near seventy, of which the first twenty-four are the letters of the alphabet—the others stand for notices—such, for instance, as a fog between the stations—a fleet going out or coming in; and so on, as is settled in the table. The signal given for their beginning to write is—all the shutters closed; and there are four persons at every station, who are provided with proper glasses for observation. The experiments that, for amusement, have hitherto been made, answer admirably. Intelligence is conveyed 74 miles in the short space of 3½ minutes.

On Monday night, Feb. 1, after eleven o'clock, as the royal family were returning from the theatre to Buckingham-house, about half way up Pall-Mall, a stone was flung at the coach, in which were their majesties and the lady in waiting, which, after breaking the window glass, and entering the carriage, struck the queen on the cheek, and fell down into lady Harrington's lap. The king afterwards carried it with him to the queen's-house. An investigation respecting this act of violence, took place the next day at the secretary of state's office, Whitehall, before the duke of Portland and the magistrates from Bow-street, but without discovery.

Feb. 19. Richard England was this day tried for the wilful murder of Peter Lee Rolles, in a duel on the 18th of

June 1784, at Crayford Bridge. He was found guilty of *Manslaughter*, and fined 1s. and to be imprisoned twelve months.

Kydd Wake was tried on Saturday, the 20th, in the Court of King's Bench, for throwing a stone at his Majesty's state coach, as his Majesty was returning from the House of Peers on the first day of the session. The offence was charged as a misdemeanor. The Jury brought in a verdict of Guilty, and the sentence is to be passed next term.

Feb. 22d. This day Mr. T. S. Gillett was tried at the Sessions House, on Clerkenwell-Green, on an indictment for going to France without a licence from his majesty, order of council, or proclamation, first obtained. He was found guilty, and sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

On the same day, at the Old Bailey, George Crossly was tried upon the capital charge of forging the will of the late Rev. H. Lewis. Mr. Crossly met the charge, by proving three clear *alibis*. The trial began at nine on Monday morning; at three on Tuesday morning the jury gave in the satisfactory verdict of *Not Guilty*.

Tuesday Lord Kenyon delivered the unanimous opinion of the Court of King's Bench, on the case of the *King versus Sampson Perry*, respecting the three objections which had been taken against the proceeding in outlawry against Mr. Perry. The Court were of opinion, that there was no error in the proceedings, and of course the *outlawry was confirmed*.—(Particulars in our next.)

It has lately been decided in Doctors Commons, that if a vicar performs his duty in a chapel of ease, in places where the church is small and inconvenient, and at so great a distance from the major part of the inhabitants, that but a few persons attend it, no action will lie against the incumbent for not performing duty in the church, the clergyman not being obliged to do duty at both places.

Last month the Commissioners of Bankrupts at Guildhall determined the important point, after a long hearing, that indorsers of bills, who take up bills after a bankruptcy, cannot be admitted to prove upon the estate of the bankrupt, and of course are not entitled to recover a dividend of the bankrupt's effects.

On Sunday evening, Feb. 14, a young woman,

woman, genteely dressed, found means to get into the Queen's house, and was making for the Queen's apartments, when she was discovered by a servant, who insisted on her telling her where she was going to; when she replied, she was going to her "Mother, Mrs. Guelph, the Queen," who had got some writings belonging to her; and if her mother did not give them up, she would find means to commit some horrid act. Upon which some of the servants secured her, and she was given into the custody of the patrol; and on Monday morning, at nine o'clock, she was brought to Bow-street, and underwent an examination before William Addington, esq. during which she appeared very much composed. She said her name is Charlotte Georgina Mary Ann Guelph. She persisted in the story she told at the Queen's house, the night before, of the Queen being her mother, &c. She farther said, that the late Duke of York was her father, that she was born at Rome, and that she was sold to a gentleman in Spain, &c.

Carlton-House, Feb. 16. On the evening of Thursday last, between eight and nine o'clock, her royal highness the infant princess, daughter of their royal highnesses the prince and princess of Wales, was christened in the great drawing-room, by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury: her royal highness was named Charlotte Augustus: the sponsors were their majesties in person, and her royal highness the duchess of Brunswick, represented by her royal highness the princess royal.—*Lond. Gaz.*

A general fast is to be observed on Wednesday, the 9th of March.

On the 23d of January, a meeting of the general committee of the Whig-Club was held at the Shakespeare Tavern, the right hon. C. J. Fox in the chair, when a declaration was agreed to, and directed to be published, as the "Declaration of the Whig Club," in which they call upon their fellow subjects to associate, in order to obtain the repeal of two laws, passed in the present session of parliament, and which have been frequently termed lord Grenville's and Mr Pitt's bills. The declaration is ably drawn up, and states, that, by one of the statutes objected to, public assemblies of British subjects, though their proceedings should be the most orderly and peaceable, and their object unquestionably legal, are fettered by restrictions hitherto unknown to the law and practice of this kingdom; and that these restric-

tions amount to an abrogation of the most important article, in that solemn compact which took place between the British nation, and the new race of princes who were raised to the throne at the revolution. By the other statute, those boundaries of treason are removed, which were ascertained and established by the act of Edward the Third; a law which had been endeared to Englishmen by the experience of four centuries; and one clause of this act, which authorizes the punishment of transportation on the second conviction, even for words spoken, appears to be totally repugnant to the merciful spirit of the law of England. The ministers, it is added, who have procured these restraints, which amount almost to a prohibition on the right of the people to assemble, to deliberate, and to petition, have thereby shaken the security of every other civil and political privilege. The Whig Club, therefore, recommend it to their fellow subjects, throughout the kingdom, to subscribe the following declaration:

"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, calling to mind the virtuous and memorable exertions of our ancestors, in all past ages for the public happiness and freedom of this nation, do solemnly engage and pledge ourselves to each other, and to our country, to employ every legal and constitutional effort, to obtain the repeal of two statutes, the one entitled, "An Act for the more effectual preventing Seditious Meetings and Assemblies," the other, "An Act for the Safety and Preservation of His Majesty's Person and Government, against Treasonable and Seditious Practices and Attempts." Statutes which we hold to be subversive of the ancient and undoubted liberties of Englishmen, as claimed, demanded, and insisted upon at the glorious Revolution, in 1688, and finally declared, asserted, and confirmed by the Bill of Rights."

Within the last two years, the astonishing sum of 5,300,000l. has been subscribed in Great Britain, for the purpose of cutting forty-three additional Canals; which have also been actually begun!

Married.] Jan. 20. The Rev. Dawson Warren, to Miss Charlotte Jackson.

21. At St. Martin's, Ludgate, the Rev. John Jeffreys, son of Dr. Jeffreys, Canon, Residentiary of St. Paul's, to Miss Charlotte Byron, of Hertford.

4. Samuel Scott, esq. of Gower-street, to Miss Ommayne, of Bloomsbury-square.

5. At St. James's Church, William Cowell, esq. to Miss Darlot, only daughter of Peter Darlot, esq. of Piccadilly.

By the Rev. Matthew Raine, head master of the Charter House School, William Gillies, of Caroline-street, Bedford square, to Miss Charlotte Bonnor, of Cleveland-row.

At St. Mary-le-bone Church, by the Lord Bishop

Bishop of Gloucester, Thomas Gardiner Bramston, esq. eldest son of T. B. Bramston, esq. M.P. for Essex, to Miss Blauw, daughter of William Blauw, esq. of Queen Ann-street, West.

6. At Tottenham, Mr. Samuel Rhodes, of Islington, to Miss Strange, of Tottenham.

At St. George's Church, Bloomsbury, Mr. Thomas Ayres, of Castle-street, Bloomsbury, to Miss Frances Deze, of Smallbury-green, near Hounslow.

At St. George's Church, Hanover-square, Mr. Wright, of Margate, to Miss Gould, daughter of William Gould, esq. of the same place.

4. At Bath, Mr. William Fox, jun. of Finsbury-place, merchant, to Miss Harriet Hale, daughter of T. H. esq. of Watling-street.

10. Mr. Pitt Corbett, of Crown-street, Westminster, to Miss E. Sleemakér.

At St. Swithin's, Mr. Peter Oliver Bignell, son of the late R. B. esq. of Banbury, Oxfordshire, to Miss Barrett, of Worcester.

Feb. 1. At Newington, Mr. John Fowler, of the Borough, to Miss Thomas.

5. At Clapham, Thomas Cecil Maunsel, esq. of Thorp Malsor, Northamptonshire, to Miss Jane Wrathar, of Clapham.

13. At St. James's Church, Alexander Hamilton, esq. M.P. to Miss Catherine Burgh, daughter of the late R. B. esq.

By the bishop of Rochester, Felix Ladbroke, esq. to Miss Mary Anne Shubrick.

Lately at Stepney Church, Mr. Thomas Ashfield, attorney, to Miss Elizabeth Miller.

8. The Right Hon. the Earl of Powerscourt, to Miss Brownlow.

18. At Stepney, George Green, esq. of Blackwall, to Miss Sarah Perry, daughter of J. P. esq.

21. Mr. George Bicknell, to Miss Levett, of North Fleet, Kent.

17. John Wadman, esq. of the Inner Temple, to Miss Douglas, daughter of H. D. esq. of the navy.

Mr. Johnson, of Warwick-place, Bedford-row, to Mrs. Colborn, of Limehouse.

7. Mr. Robert Morgan, to Miss Tell.

25. Mr. J. Miller, of Jermin Streets, to Miss Lambe.

23. Thomas Pinkerton, esq. to Miss Lamkins, of Blackheath.

Thomas Tring, esq. of Vauxhall, to Miss Taylor, Half-moon-street.

19. At Wanstead, Mr. Agar, to Miss Liford, of Hackney.

18. Mr. Wirkstead, of Aldgate, to Miss Judith Slow, of Huntingdon.

DEATHS.

25. Mr. John Lush, distiller, in High Holborn.

Feb. 5. Mr. Vincent, attorney, and vestry-clerk of St. George's, Southwark.

19. In Lower Grosvenor-street, Dr. Stewart.

22. Mr. Atkins, in Francis-street.

23. Aged 84, Thomas Corbet, esq. many years High Bailiff of Westminster.

Feb. 7. At his house in Bishopsgate-street, Mr. Walter Mudge, stationer, under the Royal Exchange.

11. At Islington, John Clarkson, esq. of the Auditor's Office, in the excise.

12. At Homerton, Mrs Henry Hall, sewer's office, London.

17. Mr. John Jones, organist to St. Paul's, the Temple, and Charter-house.

Mrs. Manning, of Ely-place, wife of Capt. M. of the Pitt, East-Indianaman.

January 22. Mrs. Godwin, of Park-street, Southwark, daughter of the late Mr. J. G. formerly of Northampton.

At her brother's house in London, Miss Embury, of Tewksbury, Gloucestershire.

At Hammersmith, Miss Sarah Moyser, the last surviving daughter of Col. M. of Beverly, Yorkshire.

In London, Harry Thompson, of Leith-hill, Kent, esq. youngest surviving son of the late H. T. esq. of York.

At Newington, Mr. Vanhagen, of St. Paul's Church-yard; and only a few days before, Mrs. Vanhagen. This couple having already settled their son, Mr. V. jun. in business, and disposed of three amiable daughters in marriage to men of worth, were preparing to enjoy the evening of life in a competency acquired by industry and integrity, when he who reverses at his pleasure, the schemes of human happiness, pronounced his—*satis est.*

Lately, in Little Britain, Mr. Edward Ballard, aged 88, of whom it has been said, that he was the last of that numerous race of booksellers, for which that place was many years famous. Roger North, in his life of Dr. John North, speaking of Booksellers, in the reign of Charles the Second, says, "Little Britain was a plentiful and perpetual emporium of learned authors; and men went thither as to a market. This drew to the place a mighty trade; the rather because the shops were spacious, and the learned gladly resort, ed to them, where they seldom failed to meet with agreeable conversation. And the booksellers themselves were knowing and conversable men, with whom, for the sake of bookish knowledge, the greatest wits were pleased to converse."

16. In Hinc-street, Manchester-square, Thos. Crump, esq.

27. Mrs. Everitt, wife of J. E. esq. of Judd's Place, Somers-town, St. Pancras.

28. Miss Maltby, of New-court, Swithin's-lane.

In Park-street, the Hon. Mrs Murray, lady of Admiral M.; M.P. for Perthshire.

30. At Hampstead, aged 80, Admiral M. Barton.

On the 4th instant, at Bath, after a lingering illness, W. Money, esq. a director of the East India Company, and an elder brother of the Trinity-house. He has left twelve children, to lament the most valuable and affectionate of fathers.

Benjamin Porter, esq. of Gower-street, Bedford-square.

At Twickenham Lodge, near London, aged 72, John Davenport, esq.

In St. Thomas's hospital, J. Munden, of Colchester, hosier. In the hospital he underwent the operation for the stone, one weighing four ounces having been extracted from him two days before his death.

Mr. Wells, optician, Fleet-street.

Feb. 8. At Hackney, aged 84, Mrs. Unwin, widow of the late S. U. esq. of that place, and formerly of Sutton, Nottinghamshire.

January 27. At Dorking, Surrey, Sir W. Burrel, bart. LL.D and Chancellor of the dioceses of Worcester and Rochester. Sir William had collected and arranged a prodigious mass of materials towards compiling a history of the county of Surrey. In his collection, besides 12 folio volumes of documents from parish registers, are three of monastic inscriptions in general, and four of surveys and records. It had been the intention of this gentleman to present his collection to the British Museum, merely as the materials to some future historian of such a work; he having the common fear of entering upon the compilation of a County History, a work certainly to be accomplished by industry, but which is now too generally declined, few adventuring to be more than collectors for future generations.

— Stainsby, esq. of the Inner Temple, barrister.

Miss Lowes, eldest daughter of Mr. L. of Pall-Mall.

13. In Lower Grosvenor-street, the Lady of Sir John Smith, bart. of Lydling, Dorsetshire. She is deeply lamented by her numerous friends, being a lady universally esteemed and respected. She was interred in the family vault at Lydling, where her unostentatious charity and good actions will ever be held in grateful remembrance.

PROMOTIONS.

James lord viscount Lifford, to be dean of Armagh (Ireland).

The rev. Richard Baty, to be chancellor of Worcester, vice sir William Burrell.

The rev. Ellis Burroughs, to the rectory of Sutton, in Norfolk.

The rev. Bernard Scale, to the vicarage of Braintree.

The rev. R. Warde, to the rectory of Ditton.

The rev. Joseph Ashbridge, to the vicarage of Alt-Hucknall.

The rev. John Robinson, to the vicarage of Tibshelf.

The rev. J. Glazebrook, to the vicarage of Belton.

The rev. B. Rice, A.M. to the vicarage of Alderminster.

The rev. Charles Griffith, A. M. to a prebendary, in Brecon Cathedral.

The rev. R. R. Jenkins, to the rectory of Axbridge.

The rev. J. C. Mayber, to the rectory of Merthir Zidvil.

The rev. Mr. Cockayne, to the vicarage of Burnham.

The rev. Thomas Howes, jun. A. M. to the vicarage of Tharsted.

The rev. Ph. Yorke, to the rectory of Great Horkefley.

The rev. Hay Drummond, to the rectory of Hadleigh.

The rev. Dr. Watson, to the rectory of Rothbury.

The rev. John Walters, to a prebendary in the cathedral of Llandaff.

The rev. James Donne, A. M. to a minor canonry, in Chester Cathedral.

The rev. Henry Dyson, A. M. to the rectory of Baughurst, Southamptonshire.

The rev. Robert Hardy Tucker, B. A. to the vicarage of St. Mary, Marlborough.

The rev. John Lilly, A. M. to the rectory of Stoke Lacy, and the vicarage of Felton.

The rev. John F. Bohun, to the rectory of Depden.

The rev. Peter Wright, A. M. to the rectory of Baddeley.

The rev. W. T. Barlow, A. B. to the rectory of Southhill.

The rev. Thomas Watts, LL.B. to the vicarage of St. Giles's, Northampton.

The rev. William Butlin, A. M. to the rectory of Cooknoe.

The rev. John Yeatman, A. M. to the rectory of Edburton.

SHERIFFS for the Year 1796.

Berkshire, M. Anthony, of Shippon, esq.

Bedfordshire, G. Brooks, of Flitwick, esq.

Bucks, T. Hibbert, of Chalfont House, esq.

Cumberland, J. Graham, of Barrock Lodge, esq.

Cheshire, the Hon. B. Grey of Wincham.

Cambridge and Huntingdonshire, J. Gardiner, esq.

County of Cornwall, J. Enys, of Enys, esq.

Devonshire, Sir B. Wrey, of Tawstock, bart.

Dorsetshire, T. B. Bower, of Iwerne Minster, esq.

Derbyshire, Sir Robert Wilmot, bart.

Essex, J. Barwise, of Marthals, esq.

Gloucestershire, S. P. Peach, esq.

Hertfordshire, J. Sowerby, of Lilly, esq.

Herefordshire, A. Whitaker, of Liston, esq.

Kent, J. Mumford, of Sutton at Hone, esq.

Leicestershire, J. Richards, of Ashby de la Z. esq.

Lincolnshire, W. Earl Welby, of Denton, esq.

Monmouthshire, H. Barnes, of Monmouth, esq.

Northumberland, A. M. L. Decardonne, esq.

Northamptonshire, A. E. Young, jun. esq.

Norfolk, T. B. Evans, of Kerby Bedon, esq.

Nottinghamshire, J. Wright, of Nottingham, esq.

Oxfordshire, W. L. Stone, esq.

Rutlandshire, R. Tomlin, of Edith Weston, esq.

Shropshire, R. Leake, of Longford, esq.

Somersetshire, J. T. Warre, of Hestercombe, esq.

Staffordshire, H. Vernon, of Hilton, esq.

Suffolk, J. Clayton, of Sibron, esq.

Southampton, H. Maxwell, of Ewshot-House, esq.

Surrey, T. Sutton, of Moulsey, esq.

Suffolk, J. Fuller, of Rosehill, esq.

Worcestershire, E. Croxall, of Shustock, esq.

Wiltshire, T. Hill, jun. of Broom, esq.

Wiltshire, G. T. B. Turner, esq.

Yorkshire, G. W. Wentworth, of Hickilton, esq.

O P

PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES.

Cumberland and Westmoreland.]—On January 23, 24, and 25, was a tempest at Whitehaven, more tremendous and destructive than any that has occurred in those parts for a century past. The waves, from the uncommon fury of the wind, entirely demolished the parapet-wall there, and greatly injured the Bulwark and the New Quay. The tide rose to such a height that boats plied in the Market-place, and sixty yards up King-street, where no person living ever remembered to have seen it before. The incessant gusts of wind and rain, accompanied with terrific explosions of thunder and lightening, spread a general consternation, and rendered the scene very horrible and alarming.

Carlisle, Jan. 30.—On Monday last, a number of respectable freemen of this city, and their friends, met to celebrate the anniversary of Mr. Fox's birth-day, to whose spirited and patriotic exertions, the freemen of Carlisle, in particular, are highly indebted.

Married.]—At St. Bees, Mr. J. Walker, to Miss Wake, of Riddleworth-Hall.

Feb. 16. At Plumblands, Mr. W. Toriffe, to Miss E. Wilkinson, of Parsonby.

At Harrington, Mr. J. Mitchell, to Miss Jenkinson.

18. At Kendal, Mr. T. Greenhow, of Beetham, to Miss A. Sinkinson, of Longsleddal.

Died.] Jan. 29. At Kirby Steven aged 82, Mrs. A. Mason, mother of the late Dr. M. Bishop of Soder and Man.

At Kendal, the Rev. Caleb Rotherham, for 42 years minister of the Dissenting congregation in that place.

February 6. At Acronbank, the seat of R. H. Edmonson, Esq. aged 88, Mrs. Norton, widow, and sister of the late Sir W. Dalston, of Acronbank.

Northumberland and Durham.]—The sum requisite for carrying into effect the proposed canal from Newcastle to Carlisle is, according to the estimate made, £55,067l. This scheme holds out very beneficial prospects to the country.

The Patriotic interest at Newcastle has declared itself in favour of the form of Association recommended by the Whig Club. Thomas Bigge, Esq. is at the head of the measure, and subscription papers lie for signature at respectable houses in that town.

On Tuesday the 9th, the ship *Eolus* was boarded at the entrance of Sunderland-harbour by a press-gang, who found on board a sailor, just returning to his

home and his friends from a French prison. They were attempting to seize him, when he knocked one of them down, and instantly drew his knife. Immediately they began to beat the poor fellow with their handspikes, till they were exhausted: they then stamped upon him a considerable time with their feet. However, by the spirited exertions of some gentleman who witnessed these cruelties, the perpetrators were on Friday brought before the Justices of the Peace; and the enormity of their conduct being proved, orders were given for their commitment; but bail for their appearance at the next quarter Sessions was afterwards accepted.

Bills of indictment were found, at the last sessions at Durham, against four persons, for purchasing potatoes in large quantities to sell again at unreasonable profits, and also for selling the same again by the gross.

Newcastle, Feb. 18.—The Merchants and traders of this town had lately a general meeting at the Guildhall, to consider of the most effectual mode of putting a stop to the farther circulation of base halfpence. The second and third resolutions unanimously agreed to by the meeting were as follow:—"That a greater quantity of halfpence, of whatever description or value, being brought into circulation, than what is absolutely necessary for the purpose of change, ought to be resisted by tradesmen as an evil, which should at all times be watchfully guarded against;" and, "That it ought to be an indispensable rule with every tradesman, not to receive more than fivepence halfpenny in any one payment; and that those halfpence should be good old mint halfpence, bearing the usual impression, of which upwards of ten years' experience has sufficiently convinced us, that there is as much as is necessary now in circulation."

Married.]—Jan. 25. At Newcastle, Mr. Bowes, Surgeon, to Miss Mary Hornby.

Same day, at Hexham, Mr. Paul Brown, of Thornborough, to Miss Margaret Angus, of Hexham.

25. At Newcastle, after a trip to Gretna Green, Mr. John J. Reed, to Miss Jane Mowbray, of Stockton.

Lately, at Whitfield, the Rev. Mr. Clark, of that place, to Miss Hodgson, of Broughby-farms.

31. At Sunderland, Captain John Oughton, to Mrs. Ridley, of the White Lyon inn.

Feb.

Feb. 3. At Newcastle, Mr. R. Phillipson, of Heworth-shore, to Miss Annet.

At Newcastle, Mr. Pilley, of Sudbroke, near Lincolnshire, to Miss Kirkup.

7. At Sunderland, Captain T. Bowram, to Mrs. Ross.

Same day, at same place, Mr. Miller, to Miss Taylor.

Feb. 1. At Wolsingham, Mr. G. Emmersos, of Ridgate, to Miss Carter, of Caldwell

Died]—At Newcastle, the Rev. Dr. Jameson, for many years chaplain to the British Factory at Dantzig.

Same place, Mr. Weddel, goldsmith and jeweller.

February 2, and 9, aged 13 months, a boy and girl, who were twins, children of Thomas Simpson, esq. mayor of Stockton. It is very remarkable that the girl continued in perfect health a whole week after the boy was taken ill; but on Sunday in the following week she was taken ill precisely at the same hour that he had been on the Sunday before, and died at the same hour as he did on the Tuesday following.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

11. Same place, Miss Nancy Kitching.

12. At Newcastle upon Tyne, W. Smout, esq.

Master W. Wood, youngest son of Dr. Wood, of Newcastle.

14. At West-Matfen, Mr. R. Dun, aged 84. Mrs. Cartwright, wife of Captain Cartwright, of the York militia.

16. Robert Forest, meal-seller, in Sandgate, suddenly dropped down and expired.

17. Mr. W. Wardell, flour-dealer, of Newcastle.

Yorkshire.]—At Doncaster Quarter Sessions, Jan. 21, Mr. James Montgomery, printer of the *Sheffield Iris* (a weekly newspaper) was convicted of publishing a libel against Colonel Athorpe, relative to his conduct at the time of the riots in Sheffield, on the 4th of August last.—Mr. Montgomery was adjudged to six months' confinement in York Castle, to pay a fine of 30l. to the King, and find security for his good behaviour for two years, himself in 100l. and two sureties in 50l. each.

On the 13th of January, of the present year, the thermometer stood in York 12 degrees higher than on the 8th of the preceding June.

A Society, for the promotion of Agricultural and Internal Improvements, is at length established in the West Riding.

A letter has appeared in one of the London prints, addressed to the conductor of the paper, from Edward Topham, Esq. dated from his farm at Wold Cottage, in Yorkshire; the purport of which is to confirm the very singular account respecting the descent of a stone from the atmosphere, near Mr. Top-

ham's house, on the 20th of December, 1795. Mr. Topham says he has no doubt of the truth of this relation. When the stone fell, a labourer was working within nine yards of it; and a carpenter and groom of Mr. Topham's within ten yards. The labourer distinctly perceived it in its fall, at the distance of about ten yards from the ground. A number of explosions were heard by the three men, at short intervals, as loud as the report of a pistol, at the time the stone fell. In burying itself in the earth, it threw up a quantity of soil more considerable, and to a greater extent, than a shell would have done. At Bridlington, and several villages, noises were heard like that of guns at sea. At two neighbouring villages, a noise was heard, as of something passing through the air, towards Mr. Topham's habitation, and some persons came to enquire concerning it.—The stone weighed, on being dug up, 3ft. 13lb.—Its texture is that of grey granite, of which there are none that can be called natives of this district.—The stone smelt very strong at first, and was strongly impregnated with sulphur.

On February the 13th, the most terrible fire ever remembered in this county broke out at the manufactory of Messrs. Marshall and Benyon, near Holbeck-lane, Leeds, which raged with such violence as to defy every attempt to extinguish it, for 12 hours successively. A considerable part of the extensive range of buildings composing the premises are destroyed; and, as an additional misfortune, by the falling of one of the walls during the conflagration, seven persons lost their lives, and twenty others were very dreadfully mangled or bruised. The property was insured.

Married]—Feb. 1. At Aston, E. S. Cooper, Esq. to Miss Verelst.

Same day, at Rotheram, Mr. Dale, of Bawtry, to Miss Earnshaw.

3. At Sculcoates, near Hull, the Rev. Mr. Edwards, of Lynn, to Miss Pead, of Hull.

11. At Knaresborough, Mr. W. Andrews, of Scriven, to Miss Taylor, heiress of I. T. Esq.

Same day, both of Scriven, Mr. T. Scott, to Miss Wilks.

Same day, at Hull, Mr. Collins, to Miss Coulson.

13. At Bridlington, Mr. I. Herdfield, jun. to Miss Milne.

17. At Sheffield, Mr. Herdfield, to Miss Outram.

17. At Fishlake, Mr. Hunt, to Miss Higham.

20. At Sefton, Mr. R. Pinkney, to Miss P. Prince.

4. At Sheffield, Mr. J. Ellis, to Miss Makin.

14. At Leeds, Mr. Cryer, to Miss Roberts.

Feb. 4. At Ffryston, Mr. J. W. Butterworth, of Leeds, to Miss Wainwright, of Ferrybridge.

Feb. 6. At Felton, the Rev. Mr. Buckbarrow, to Miss Frances Smith, of Thirton.

Feb. 4. At Catterick, Mr. Fall, of Redhall, to Miss C. Foss.

Died. Jan. 17. At Burlington, Isaac Wall, esq. He has by his will bequeathed to the poor of that town, for ever, the dividend of 1000l. three per cent. consols; and an equal sum to the poor of the parish of St. Nicholas, Deptford.

Aged 50, George White, of Dronfield, miller; a man who, without ample possessions, acquired the esteem of mankind by his superior worth: he was universally respected while living, as an honest, charitable, and good man; and his death is now as sincerely lamented by all who knew him.

At Hull, Mr. Davies, of the Excise Coffee-house, in the market-place.

Same place, aged 82, Mrs. Spouncer, mother of Mr. S. grocer.

In an advanced age, the Rev. J. Chamberlain, for 25 years past chaplain to the Roman Catholic boarding-school for young ladies, without Micklegate-bar, York.

Mrs. Teale, wife of Mr. Teale, land-surveyor, of Leeds.

At Hull, aged 82, Mrs. Sleight, relief of Mr. S. late of that town, ship-owner.

In the 90th year of her age, Miss Pheasant, of Doncaster; a maiden lady.

At York, Mrs. Atkinson, wife of Mr. A. architect.

Miss Grainger, of Sherburn, near Ferrybridge.

Harry Thompson, esq. He left the bulk of his fortune, amounting to 150,000l. to Henry Thompson, esq. of Kirby-hall. His remains were interred in the mausoleum at the last-mentioned place.

At Hull, Mr. Joseph Jewit, brandy merchant and wharfinger.

At Leeds, Mr. Jefferson, merchant, of that place.

At Hutton Bushel, near Scarborough, aged 102, Mr. Gibson.

At Hull, Mr. Wharton, of Scarborough. He was walking across his apartment, and turning round very quickly, broke a blood-vein; an accident which occasioned his death soon afterwards.

20. Mr. J. Turner, of Sheffield, merchant.

Mr. R. Randall, for many years an eminent fruiterer at Leeds.

Mr. Joseph Walker, of Barnsley, grocer and brandy merchant.

Jan. 24. Suddenly, Mr. John Ardson, an opulent grocer of Sheffield. He was an expert tradesman, and had acquired, by unremitting industry, with a fair reputation, an independent fortune, which was still rapidly increasing. His charac-

ter for probity became gradually so well established, as justly to merit the confidence reposed in him, by being intrusted with the management of the affairs of others. Of late years his commercial concerns had been very extensive. What is more to the praise of Mr. Ardson, he was exemplary in the relative and social duties, and ever ready to extend his compassion to the unhappy and afflicted.

At Pontefract, in the 76th year of her age, Mrs. Osborne, wife of Mr. O. stationer.

Lady Smith, relief of the late Sir J. S. S., bart. of Newland Park, near Wakefield.

Of a pleurisy, near Clitheroe, Viscountess Southwell, lady of Visc. S. of Ireland.

At Scarborough, Miss Bell, daughter of the late Mr. B. attorney.

28. At Potter Newton, Mrs. Rhodes, relief of the late Mr. J. R. of Leeds.

31. Miss Fletcher, sister of Mr. T. F. of Leeds, butcher.

Mr. Abraham Chamberlain, of Skipton, in Craven, raff and iron merchant, which business he had followed for 53 years successively.

Mrs. Wade, linen-draper, at Halifax.

In the Fleet Prison, Richard Drabble, a Yorkshireman, who, after enduring a confinement of upwards of six years in York Castle (where he earned a miserable subsistence by weaving thread-lace) was removed thence, some months ago, by his creditors to the Fleet, in which place no handicraft trade is allowable. The coroner's jury which sat on the body deliberated on the propriety of finding the unhappy man to have died through want: this, however, was not actually the case; as his humane fellow prisoners on the poor side had daily administered unto him whatever relief they could afford.

February 1. At Halifax, Mr. W. Bromley, merchant.

At Leeds, Mrs. Upton, wife of Mr. U. stay-maker.

4. At Halifax, Mr. T. Hyde, attorney, and coroner for the division of Agbride and Morsey, in the west-riding of Yorkshire; an upright lawyer, and valuable member of society.

The Rev. Mr. Simpson, dissenting minister of Warley, near Halifax; and also, a few days before, Miss H. Simpson, his daughter.

6. At York, Benj Swinehead, esq. collector of Excise.

Same place, Josiah Holkham, esq.

7. At York, Mr. Mounfor, linen-draper.

8. At York, Mr. W. Clark, watch-maker. He served the office of sheriff of that city in the year 1786.

At Halifax, Mr. Pollard. He was suddenly taken ill while standing in the market-place, and being removed to a neighbouring house, expired soon after.

9. At Whitby, Mr. F. Wood, stone-mason.

At Sealing Dam, near Whitby, Mrs. Mabel Shaw, innkeeper.

Aged 21, Miss Ann Singleton, of Great Givendale, eldest daughter of the late J. S. esq.

11. At Ripon, in the 96th year of her age,

Mr.

Mrs. Binns, aunt to Dr Ayrton, of the Chapel Royal, St. James's.

Lancashire.] The clergy of Manchester are laudably exerting themselves, by preaching charity sermons, &c. to collect the sum of 1800l. in order to complete the purchase of the Bath Inn, for the purpose of converting it into a Lying-in Hospital.

Many of the weaving manufacturers in this county have lately substituted potatoes for fine flour, in the process of deeting their pieces.

A spotted fever, attended with dangerous symptoms, rages now at Manchester; 200 patients are at present on the physicians' books at the infirmary.

Blackburn, Feb. 24. On Thursday evening, a fire broke out in the cotton-factory of Messrs. Horrocks, at Preston, which consumed totally, in two hours, the whole of those extensive premises;—without exception, the most complete establishment of the kind, in the three kingdoms.—Happily, the whole property was insured.—The origin of the fire is attributed to the friction of the steam-engine.

Married.] Feb. 18. At Liverpool, Mr. Baker, of London, to Miss S. M'Lean.

9. At Yealand, near Lancaster, Mr T. Beckane, to Miss Susan Frankland.

12. Mr J. Marsden, to Miss Ann Pugh.

14. At Liverpool, Mr G. Sherrock, to Miss M. Dutton.

18. Same place, Mr. J. Leigh, to Miss Croisfield.

— At Warrington, the Rev. E. Hinchcliffe, to Miss Ann Boyer.

21. At Liverpool, Mr. T. Ashton, to Miss Holcroft.

8. At Warrington, Mr William Parker, to Miss M. Atherton.

At Lancaster, Mr. William Earnshaw, of Staley-bridge, to Miss Mary Mellor, daughter of Mr. B. Mellor, of Micklehurst.

At Wigan, Mr. Howarden, to Miss Winkley, of the same place.

Feb. 3, Mr. John Lynden, to Miss Lucy Langdale, Deansgate Manchester.

4. Mr W. H. Charlton, to Mrs. Westell, both of the same place.

Died.] At Stoneyhurst academy, Mr. E. Weld, the second son of — Weld, esq. of Lulworth Castle Dorset.

At Manchester, aged 80. Mr Shaw, master of the punch-house in that town for 58 years successively. Mr Shaw was one of the few landlords, who have the happy art of mingling practical morality, with the enjoyment of good liquor. In the discipline and regularity of his kitchen, particularly as to latencies of hour, he was never surpassed; not a lemon was squeezed, nor a bowl replenished, after eight in the evening. In a word, the purity of his punch, as a

landlord, could only be excelled by the purity of his heart, as a man.

Mr. Peter Hankinson grocer, at Warrington.

Mr. Thomas Kent, a principal and confidential clerk in the office of the duke of Bridgewater.

At Liverpool, Peter Parker, esq. the Mayor. Same place, John Plumbe, esq.

At Manchester, Mr. W. White, son of Mr. White, formerly a grocer at Birmingham.

January 6. At Liverpool. Mrs Clarke, relict of the late Mr. J. C. of that place.

30. Miss Broster, eldest daughter of Capt. B. of Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.

February 2. In the prime of life, Mr. J. Bailey, packer, of Manchester.

At Banktop, Mrs Fildes, relict of the late Mr. F. grocer, of that place.

At Randal, near Lancaster, Mrs Drinkall, wife of Mr. D. of the former place.

3. Mr. John Withington, of Manchester.

5. Miss Johnson, of Duke-street, Liverpool.

Mr. Christ. Therson, of Lancaster, hatter

11. At Manchester, Mr. Hodgson, school-master.

At Liverpool, aged 86, Mr. John Reynolds, formerly of the Cross-keys inn, of that place.

Mrs. Marwade, of St. Ann's Liverpool; an exemplary character, sincerely regretted. The well-known epitaph of Pope, beginning with the words, "Here lies a woman, good without pretence," might be applied with propriety to the memory of this excellent person.

14. At Manchester, Mr. Tate, formerly a considerable manufacturer of small wares.

January 29. At Lawley, Mr. L. Peele, son of the late W. P. esq. near Blackburn.

At Liverpool, after a severe indisposition, which he bore with fortitude, Mr. Hodgson, school-master.

25. At Liverpool, aged 83, Mrs. Robinson; a lady of an amiable disposition and character.

26. Mrs. Cain, wife of Mr. T. C. Taylor, of Liverpool.

February 10. In Liverpool, H. Littledale, esq.

13. Lord Visc. Southwell, at his seat in Lancashire. He survived his lady only five weeks. He is succeeded in the title by his son Thomas, the eldest of seven children.

Cashire.] On the night of Tuesday, Jan. 26, the Chester mail was robbed within one hundred yards of the gibbet where Lewin hangs, who suffered for a similar offence, about two years ago. A man answering to the description in the advertisement, has been apprehended at Northampton, on suspicion of having been a party concerned in this robbery. Two men have been also taken up at Birmingham, on the like suspicion.

On Thursday last, four flats, laden with coals, from Lancashire, arrived at the Tower Wharf of the Ellesmere Canal, near Chester, being the first vessels which have navigated that part of the Canal with Coals.

Chester, Jan. 20. It has been computed

puted that, in this city, 10,000 bushels of wheat, the produce of 500 acres of land, have been already saved to the inhabitants, in consequence of the introduction and partial use of barley.

Died.] At Congleton, Mrs Sophia Tapp, wife of Mr T. soap-boiler, and daughter of the late John Colby, esq. of Boston, Lincolnshire.

January 30. At Nantwich, Mr R. Taylor, tanner.

31. Mr E. Astle, of Chester, tanner
In the prime of life, Mrs Miller, wife of Mr. R. M. of Farndon.

Miss Whitby, of Tarvin.
At Chester, Sir C. Leving, bart.
At Westbrooke House, near Weymouth, P. Keay, esq. of Malpas.

Shropshire.] In constructing the canal, which has for its object to unite the rivers Severn and Dee, one of the boldest efforts of invention, in modern times, is the attempt to convey the water from one mountainous point to another, over one of the deepest dells in Britain, measuring, in a perpendicular descent, upwards of 90 feet, and in length, between 300 and 400 feet! The stupendous aqueduct forming this part of the canal, is to be one entire trough, made of cast iron!

Married.] Feb. 9. At Shrewsbury, Mr Sheppard, of the Shrewsbury Bank, to Miss Denton, of Grafton.

10. Mr R. Carswell, to Miss Poole, of Harlesseat.

8. At Oswestry, T. Morrice, esq. to Miss E. Morrice.

7. Mr Roe, to Mrs Hampton, of White-church.

8. Mr Hassall, of Gresley, to Miss S. Lewis.

18. At Shrewsbury, the Rev. Mr. Wilde, to Miss Mary Corfield.

17. At Padworth, T. Finlow, esq. to Miss C. Lucas, of Kenilworth.

Died.] Mrs Cornwall, lady of the Rev. Dr. C. dean of Canterbury.

January 31. At Ellesmere, in consequence of cold, caught by lying in a damp bed, Mr Gregory, attorney, of Whitchurch.

Mrs. Oakley, in Barker-street, Shrewsbury.

Staffordshire.] The reservoir of the ingenious Mr Tilstone is now nearly completed. Some time ago, this gentleman procured a grant from the corporation of Newcastle, of a spring near the town, for the purpose of furnishing the inhabitants with an ample supply of spring water at their own houses. Mr. Tilstone's engine is also rendered subservient to carding wool for hats, grinding wheat, and various other uses, alike advantageous to the public and to himself.

The inhabitants of Newcastle under Linc have entered into a subscription

to erect mills for the purpose of grinding corn, and also houses for baking the same. It is computed that, by this plan, a saving will be made, in a family of six persons, in the article of flour alone, of 4l. 11s. in the course of one year; and to the inhabitants of the town at large of 22,750l. during the same time.

Married.] Feb. 10. At Weston upon Trent, Mr Anwell, to Miss Bosson, aged thirteen.

2. Mr C. Hudson, of Stafford, to Miss Ann Hassell.

1. At Hales Owen, Mr. James Mace, of Wolverhampton, to Miss Ann Jones.

17. At Cudworth, Thomas Finlow, esq. of Burton upon Trent, to Miss Catherine Lucas.

7. At Abbots Bromley, Mr Perkins, of Hopton, to Miss A. Chamberlain.

Died.] At Kinver, aged 64, Mrs S. Seager, a maiden lady, whose charity was exemplary when alive, and extended beyond the grave by her liberal bequest to different public charities.

Mr Thompson, of Litchfield.

At Leek, Mrs Lucas.

Derbyshire.] A new Public Market for Corn and Grain was opened on the 22d of January, at Bakewell.

Derby, Feb. 17. There is now a prospect of the speedy completion of the works upon our canal. The weir across the Derwent is also already finished, as is also the cast-iron aqueduct in the Holmes.

In consequence of a person having been drowned, while playing at foot-ball on Shrove Tuesday last, the magistrates have ordered that such practice shall be discontinued in future.

Married.] Feb. 10. At Ipstones, Mr Holley, of Norfolk, to Miss Sneyd, of Belmont.

13. At Ashborne, Mr. Harlow, to Miss Trent.

9. At Chapel en le Frith, Mr W. Robinson, jun. of Chesterfield, to Miss A. Bradbury.

Died.] At Quarndon, Henry Price, esq.

At Alfreton, the Rev. D. Gronow, minister of the Dissenting congregation.

30. At Grass-hill, near Chesterfield, Mrs Brockopp.

At Chesterfield, W. Anderson, esq. of London.

February 8. In London, Mrs Plaxton, late of Duffield-hall, Derbyshire.

13. In Derbyshire, aged 92, the Rev. S. Pegge, LL.D. (*Anecdotes in our next.*)

15. Arch. Douglas, esq. aged 76, at Wood Eaves, near Ashborne, Derbyshire.

29. At Derby, aged 40, Miss M. Potter. Her death was occasioned by an excruciating cancer in her breast, the anguish of which she endured with wonderful patience and fortitude, supported by the best of consolations, a conscience void of offence,

offence, and the cheering spirit of religious hope! Her dissolution, like the setting sun, was not without the hope of rising more glorious in another world.

Nottinghamshire.]—On the 2d of February, Sir John Warren was presented, in due pomp and form, with the freedom of Nottingham, which had been unanimously voted to him on the 7th of October last, but which, his professional pursuits had, till then, prevented him from personally accepting.

Married.]—Feb. 2. At Southwell, the Rev. Robert Chaplin, to Miss Ann Sutton, of Norwood Park.

3. Mr. Jamson, attorney at law, to Miss Roe, both of Nottingham.

8. In Nottingham, Mr. P. Blood, to Miss S. Wilkison.

10. At Ruddington, Mr. W. Garner, of Long Whatton, to Miss E. Henson.

Died.]—At Bingham, aged 58, Mrs. Skinner, a respectable farmer.

Mrs. Smith, widow of the late — S. gent. of Papplewick.

At Nottingham, in an advanced age, Mr. E. Hallam, formerly a cabinet-maker of considerable business.

At Ratcliffe upon Trent, near Nottingham, Mrs. Green, wife of Mr. G. an opulent farmer.

At Newark, Mr. J. Holmes, plumber and glazier.

At Nottingham, Mrs. Lees, wife of Mr. J. L. Angel-row.

January 30. Mrs. Gordon, wife of Mr. G. cordwainer, of Nottingham.

February 2. Mr. M. Grey, publican, in Houndsigate, Nottingham.

6. At Nottingham, Mrs. Oldknow, relict of Mr. J. O. and sister to the late Mr. Alderman Carruthers.

Mrs. Gill, wife of Mr. G. sen. St. James's-lane, Nottingham.

7. Mrs. Milner, wife of Mr. M. cabinet-maker, in Parliament-street, Nottingham.

At Mansfield, Mrs. Chadwin, relict of Mr. C. publican.

8. At Newark, Mrs. S. Crampen, a maiden lady.

Lincolnshire.]—Lincoln, Jan. 26.—The Rev. Francis Barston, of Aslackby, was last week convicted at the Bourne Quarter Sessions, for having worn hair-powder, without having previously taken out a licence, and sentenced to pay the penalty of 20l. He was also, on the 2d of February, convicted before two magistrates of having made it his practice to shoot game without a legal certificate, and sentenced to pay the same penalty.

A bill is to be brought into Parliament during the present session, for draining, embanking, and inclosing the extensive waste grounds, called Stockwith Common, in this county.

It is in contemplation to make very

considerable improvements to the navigation of the Haven of Great Grimsby, and to procure an act of Parliament for this purpose, during the present session.

Married.]—Feb. 1. At Market Rasen, Mr. William Rawlin, to Miss Bennet.

At Everby, near Sleaford, Mr. Baldike, to Miss Thorpe.

16. At Stamford Baron, Mr. Chapman, ironmonger and brazier, of Wisbech, to Mrs. Neazam, of Peterborough.

At Billinghay, Mr. John Camm, to Miss Eliza Kent.

At Kleckington, Mr. William Smith, to Miss Stephenson, of Swineshead Lodge.

7. At Boston, W. Robinson, Esq. to Miss Goodwin.

—Mr. W. Chapman, to Miss Emerson.

5. At Marcham le Fron, Mr. J. Tomlinson, to Mrs. Tasker.

8. At Swayton, Mr. Mann, to Mrs. Vicar.

16. Mr. Chapman, to Mrs. Newzan, of Peterbro'.

Died.]—At Gainsborough, the Rev. Jeremiah Gill, for upwards of 50 years minister of a Presbyterian congregation in that place, and justly respected for his charitable and other virtues.

At Sleaford, aged 82, Leonard Brown, esq. of Pinchbeck, for many years a magistrate for the district of Kesteven.

At Newark, Mr. J. Holmes.

January 23. At Stamford, aged 41, Mr. Baker, one of the principal burgesses.

24. Mrs. Rainey, wife of Mr. Rainey, plumber and glazier, of Bourne.

February 1. At Lamby, near Gainsborough, Mr. Bolton, farmer and grazier.

5. At Leverton, in Nottinghamshire, Mrs. Hill, widow, of Springthorpe.

Rutland.

Married.]—Feb. 2. At Uppingham, Mr. J. Chapman, baker, to Mrs. Buzzard, both of that place.

8. At the same place, Mr. Dash, of Kertering, to Miss M. Collyer.

7. At Market Overton, Mr. Scott, to Miss Nicks.

Died.]—At Leaton, aged 86, Mrs. Drake.

February 8. At Uppingham, aged 50, Mrs. E. Sewell.

10. The Rev. John Freeman, M.A. rector of Lyndon, &c.

Leicester.

Married.]—Feb. 4. Mr. J. Chamberlin, to Mrs. Holmes, both of Leicester.

Same day, at Nether Broughton, Mr. J. Mann, to Miss A. Thompson.

Died.]—January 23, Mr. Draper, an eminent farrier, of Castle Donnington.

At Blaby, aged 32, the Rev. W. Freer, rector of Stoughton and Thurnby, to which livings he had been presented in August last.

February 2. Mrs. Parkinson, wife of Mr. P. surgeon, of Leicester.

21. At Belgrave, the Rev. Mr. Clayton, aged 81. He had enjoyed the living of that place 37 years, and that of the parish of Norton, the long period of 51!

Warwickshire.

Warwickshire.]—Mr. Bolton, of Birmingham, has made proposals to Government to coin all the public money requisite, by contract; engaging to take off as much coin in one day, by his process, as is now done at the Tower in six months. Mr. Bolton's machine works by a steam-engine; and, without endangering the fingers of the coiners, is competent to throw off 100 impressions at every stroke.

From a return of the number of acres sown in this county last year, it appears that 35,662 acres were sown with wheat, which produced 578,166 bushels, being 87,388 exceeding the growth of the preceding year. 1474 acres were sown with rye, which produced 2,311 bushels, being 1056 exceeding the produce of 1794: 24,020 acres were sown with barley, which produced 645,543 bushels, being 216,377 exceeding the growth of the preceding year: 22,398 acres with oats, which produced 594,936 bushels, being 189,221 more than in 1794: 1794 acres with pease, which produced 27,343 bushels, being 20,565 more than in the preceding year; and 4463 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres with beans, which produced 88,471 bushels, being 45,407 exceeding the produce of 1794.

At a public meeting of the manufacturers of buttons, held in Birmingham, it was resolved to apply to Parliament for an Act to prevent the making or selling ungilt or unplated buttons, which shall have the word *gilt*, or *plated*, or any other word, letter, or mark, on the underside thereof, or on the papers or covers wherein the same are wrapped up.

On Thursday, Feb. 18th, William Allen was apprehended at Birmingham, with a large quantity of counterfeit British and French guineas, shillings, écus, &c. together with all the implements used in coining, having been found in his possession. A Thomas Wild, who had come from Manchester for the purpose of purchasing counterfeit money, was also taken in company with Allen. It appears that Allen had exchanged with the other, thirty of his counterfeit half-guineas for five good mint guineas.

Married.]—Feb. 4. At Warwick, Joshua Deverell, Esq. to Miss Sarah Baines.

30. At Edgbaston, Mr. E. Penn, of Birmingham, to Miss Cox.

9. At Birmingham. Mr. Thomas Hands, to Miss Sharp, of Warwick.

2. At Abbot Bromley, Mr. Perkins, of Hopton, to Miss Ann Chamberlain.

At Bassage, Mr. Edmund Baker, of Birmingham, to Miss Ellen Harding.

8. At Dawley, Mr. Edwards, of Colebrookdale, to Miss Wright.

16. Mr. William Osborn, of Hampton Lucy, to Miss L. Bissell, of Pinley Abbey.

5. Mr. Moleworth, of Birmingham, to Miss Jefferon, eldest daughter of J. J. Esq. of West Bromwich.

28. At Tattenhall, the Rev. R. Harling, to Miss Melville, of Gaglewade.

15. Mr. Edward Hobson, of Birmingham, to Miss Boole.

At Feckenham, Mr. William Palmer, attorney, to Miss Wells.

12. At Stratford-upon-Avon, Mr. S. Johnson, to Miss M. Black.

At Birmingham, Mr. T. Millward, to Miss F. Martin.

At the same place, Mr. I. Barber, to Miss R. Pargett.

8. Mr. T. Hand, to Miss Sharp, both of Warwick.

Died.]—Mr. T. B. Walford, bookseller, of Stratford.

At Offchurch, near Warwick, Mr. Franklyn.

January 23, Mrs. Hutton, wife of Mr. W. H. of Birmingham, a respectable stationer, and popular writer.

Mrs. Stevens, Coventry.

At Birmingham, Mrs. Redfern, wife of Mr. R.

At Rugby, George Hailstone. He was retiring to bed, when he unfortunately fell down stairs and dislocated his neck. Residing in a house by himself, he was not discovered till the following morning.

February 8. Mr. Russel, of Kenelworth.

14. Miss Smith, of Dunchurch.

At Allestley, near Coventry, Miss Whitehead, one of the people called Quakers.

February. In the 69th year of his age, Mr. W. Wedge, of Bentley Heath, near Solihull.

15. Mrs. Richards, wife of Mr. J. R. of Birmingham.

18. At Newbold-upon-Avon, near Rugby, Mr. John Only.

19. Mrs. Hammersley, wife of Mr. P. H. of Birmingham.

Worcestershire.]—The aggregate number of pockets of hops weighed in Worcester market, in the course of last year, amounted to 18,495.

The Worcester and Birmingham Canal will be navigable by next May, to its junction with the Stratford Canal. It will command an extensive traffic in the coal and iron trades, groceries and heavy goods, &c. by its near approach to Worcester, and the trade subsisting between Bristol and Birmingham.

It is in contemplation to establish an Agricultural Society for this county, the meetings of which are to be held at Evesham.

Married.]—Jan. 28. At Doddenham, Mr. Owen, of Worcester, to Miss Court.

8. At Worcester, Mr. P. O. Bignell, to Miss Barratt.

18. At Ribblesford, Mr. Howell, of London, to Miss Green, of Bewdley.

9. Mr Sengar, surgeon, to Miss L. Broom, both of Bewdley.

14. Mr S. Perkins, of Freshford, Somerset, to Mrs Gardner, of Worcester.

Died.]—At Pershore, aged 84, *Mrs Bunn.*

Aged 19, *Miss Quarrel,* of Penham.

Mrs Carpenter, wife of Mr. Carpenter, hatter, of Broad-street, Worcester.

At her house, near Worcester, *Mrs Griffiths.*

January 29. *Mr. Blackwall,* hair-dresser, of Worcester.

At the Cottage on the Hill, near Worcester, of the small-pox, after having escaped it nearly 70 years, *Mr. W. Filcox.*

February 1. At Bewdley, *Mr. Lawrence.*

6. Aged 68, *Mr. H. Ruff,* glover, of Worcester.

Aged 82, *Mrs D. Grump,* of Bewdley.

11. At Bewdley, *Mr. Jones,* surgeon.

13. At Redmarley, *Mrs Howe,* wife of the Rev. J. H.

23. At Worcester, *E. Neunkam,* esq.

Herefordshire.]—The tax on horses will probably operate as a stimulus to the more extensive use of oxen in Agriculture. A considerable farmer lately attended a sale of oxen near Hereford, carrying with him numerous commissions to purchase ox-teems, on the account of several hill-country gentlemen. A number of land-owners among the nobility and gentry, have also sent circular letters to their tenants, recommending the raising of bull-calves, for the purpose of husbandry, a measure that will at once tend to increase considerably the stock of good beef, and render horses less necessary.

Married.]—Feb. 4. The Rev. E. Eckley, of Creadon-hill, to Miss Sarah Taylor, of Tillington-court.

11. Mr T. Wyke, surgeon, to Miss S. Cawdell, of Bewdley.

Died.]—At Leominster, *Mr. Joseph Powell.* *Monmouthshire.*

Married.]—Feb. 16. At Ross, Harper Jones, esq. of Monmouth, to Mrs. Whitcombe.

Died.]—At Lanover, aged 103, *E. Steadaway.*

Gloucestershire.]—Twenty-two bills of indictment have been found by the Grand Jury of this county against fore-stallers.

The inhabitants of Tewksbury, in a general meeting, have resolved unanimously, not to purchase butter at a higher rate than 10d. per lb. which they pronounced to be a fair price.

The inhabitants of Gloucester, in a public meeting, at which the Mayor presided, resolved unanimously, “That 11d. per lb. was, at this period, a just and

sufficient price for butter:” and agreed not to purchase at a higher rate.

The bakers also had lately a public meeting at Gloucester, at which the Mayor attended, and unanimously entered into the following resolutions :

“ That there does not exist any real scarcity of wheat in this county, as appears from the very considerable quantities of old wheat recently offered to several of them, but which they could not purchase, on account of the exorbitant price demanded.

“ That wheat is withheld from the markets, in consequence of the badgers and jobbers in corn, making it a common practice to call on the farmers at home, and who, being mere speculators, offer and give prices that have pernicious effect on the fair market.”

Married.]—Feb. 6. At Gloucester, Mr. Wilton, apothecary, to Miss Lightfoot, both of that place.

8. Mr Charles Horlick, of Painswick, to Miss Broom, daughter of J. Broom, esq. of Kidderminster.

11. At Forth Hampton, Mr Charles Clarke, of Birmingham, to Miss Mary Need.

Died.]—At Sevenhampton, *James Hinckman,* gent.

At Gloucester, *Mr. Washbourn,* sen.

Miss Enbury, of Tewksbury; a young lady of cultivated talents and amiable virtues.

At Gloucester, *Miss S. Oliver.*

February 14. The Rev. St. John Stone, late fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford.

17. *Mr. J. Elderton,* late of Stapleton.

Oxfordshire.

Married.]—Feb. 1. The Rev. Dr. Gill, rector of Rousham, to Miss Townshend, daughter of the late Dr. B. of Banbury.

8. At Biaffer, Mr. J. Dudley, jun. to Miss Reading.

9. At Anburne, Mr W. Oakham, of Ramsbury, to Miss A. Cook.

Died.] February 14. Dr Sibthorp, the celebrated botanist, in consequence of the fatigues he underwent in his second (and last) tour to Turkey and the Grecian Islands, in quest of rare and curious plants. Mr Sibthorp took his degree of A.M. at Oxford, in the year 1733 (June 28); that of B.M. in 1733 (Dec. 8); and that of D.M. in the the following year (Jan. 20). Some years ago, the University of Oxford chose him to be a travelling fellow, a designation well adapted to his favourite studies and pursuits; we find him, accordingly, afterwards, in this capacity, exploring a considerable part of the European continent. In 1794, the Doctor published his *Flora Oxoniensis.* He has bequeathed his valuable collection of plants and books to the Botanical Library at Oxford. He has also left to the University there, 300l. per annum, in landed property, in trust, for the purpose of defraying the expences which may attend the publication of a *Flora Graeca*, to be taken from specimens in his own collection. On the completion of that work, the Doctor has farther bequeathed the sum of 200l. per ann.

to be added to the salary of the Sheradian professor, on condition of his reading lectures in botany, in every term. While the Doctor was on his travels in Germany, the University of Gottingen, in complement to his great merit and abilities, presented him with a degree.

At Chippenham, on his return from Bristol, where he had been for the recovery of his health, Mr J. Songa, eldest son of Mr B. S. of London.

Norfolkshire.

Married.]—Feb. 5, C. Mansell, esq. of Thop-Malton, to Miss J. Wrather.

Same day, at Rillingbury, Mr R. Scriven to Miss S. Harris.

15. At Bugbrook, Mr J. Perkins, to Mrs Lawson, of Upper Heyford.

18. At Northampton, Mr. J. Rose to Mrs S. Oram, of Pytchley.

Died.] January. Mr Marshall, Magpye-Inn, Northampton.

25. At Peterborough, aged 70, Mr Bouker, sen. attorney,

27. At Wellingborough, Mr Abbot, jun. He went into his father's barn, and cut his throat in so dreadful a manner that he expired immediately.

28. Universally lamented by his numerous friends, &c. the Rev. H. Summers, minister of a dissenting congregation at Wellingborough.

At Oundle, Mr. Staples, advanced in years.

At Harleston, Mr. Andrews, an opulent grazier.

February 5. At her seat at Southwick, near Oundle, aged 77, Mrs. Broads, relict of the Rev. F. B. D.D.

Mr. Jacob D. Rippon, a respectable farmer, of Wakerty.

7. At Peterborough, aged 69, Mrs Mary Berkeley.

Huntingdonshire.

Married.]—Feb. 15. At Huntingdon, Mr. Wickstead, of London, to Miss Judith Soho.

— Mr. Holmes, of Alconbury Hill, to Miss Vinter.

Cambridgeshire.

Married.]—Feb. At Cambridge, the Rev. N. D'Eye, to Miss Green.

15. Mr. G. Cooper, of Upware, to Miss Sharp, of Isleham.

Died.] January. Aged 75, Mrs M. Wall, of Cambridge.

29. Of a decline, Trevor Lloyd, esq. fellow-commoner of Trinity-college, Cambridge.

February 11. At Cambridge, Mr Wade, a fellow-commoner of Trinity-college, in consequence of having fallen on the railing of the college, in endeavouring to get over the wall, at a late hour, to his own apartment.

Norfolk.]—At the late sessions for this country, a person was convicted of reciting the contents of a hand-bill, said to be of a seditious tendency, to a number of persons. He was sentenced to one year's imprisonment in Aylsham Bridewell.

The Justices of the peace for this county have published an advertisement,

authorising any persons to offer proposals for furnishing employment to the prisoners in the castle of Norwich, and the different bridewells throughout the county. Such proposals are not to involve any thing tending to endanger the health of the prisoners, or the security of the castle prison, or that of the several bridewells.

In the Norwich, Cambridge, and Bury papers, previously to the anniversary of Mr. Fox's birth-day, a whinifical advertisement appeared, announcing an intended celebration, &c. in Norwich, concluding with the words, "Dinner to be on the table at four o'clock, and to consist of *potatoes and barley dumplings*." On the 25th, being the birth-day, there was a numerous and respectable meeting.—Two of the resolutions passed at this meeting were worded in the following manner :—

"That barley dumplings are not proper food for freemen, but are only fit for dogs, hogs, and slaves; and that they be taken from the table, and sent to Wyndham, Pitt, and the Duke of Portland;" and "To persevere in the disuse of hair-powder, notwithstanding many parsons, and other persons in this city, still continue to use it, although they are well acquainted that their poor neighbours are starving for want of bread."

Lynn, Feb. 24.—On Monday, a man going to see the lion exhibiting at the mart in this place, and inadvertently putting his arm through the grate, had the misfortune to lose the same, as the lion instantly bit it off close to his elbow.

Married.] Feb. 1, At Walpole, Mr T. Abbott, of Wisbeach, to Miss Woods.

At Athill, John Towler, esq. to Mrs Abigail Tennant.

9. At Kettlestone, Mr Walker Wilby, of Little Britain, to Mrs Dewing, widow of T. D. esq.

11. At Thurford, Mr. N. Powell, to Miss S. Stevens.

23. At Eaton, R. Forster, esq. to Miss Greaves, of Norwich.

Died.] Jan. 31. Aged 65, Mrs Gapp, wife of Mr G. of St Martin's, Norwich.

February 4. At Norwich, aged 22, Mr E. Sackville.

Aged 68, the wife of Mr. Dalrymple, liquor-merchant, of Norwich.

The Rev. L. Bell, M.A. rector of Salle, and vicar of Saxthorpe, and formerly of Pembroke-college, Cambridge.

At Lynn, Stephen Wilson, esq. one of the aldermen of that corporation.

At St. Germain's, near Lynn, Mrs Chadd.

At Norwich, Mrs. Tooley, of the Bull's-head.

Suffolk.

Married.]—Feb. 3. Mr Arthur Watling, farmer, of Satterby, to Miss Capon, of Lowestoft.

18. At

18. At Hadleigh, Mr S. Stow, to Miss Quinton.

Died.]—Aged 70, John Gould, esq. near Ipswich.

At Needham, Miss Marriott, sister of J. M. esq. of Thorne Hall, in Suffolk.

At Lowestoft, aged 75, Mrs Tripps, wife of Mr M. merchant. Her life had been exemplarily devout, and her death was greatly lamented by all who knew her, and particularly by the poor.

Mrs Carver, wife of Mr. J. C. of Lowestoft. February 7. Aged 92, Mrs E. Craighton.

Hertfordshire.

Married.]—Feb. 7. At Stanstead, Mr. William Kirkby, of Hunsdon, to Miss Elizabeth Cozens, of Stanstead.

Died.]—20. James Atkinson, esq. town-clerk of Hertford. He was an able and honest lawyer, convivial in domestic life, benevolent to the distressed, steady in friendship, and generous even to an absent enemy. He resigned the office of coroner for the county, when his health interfered with the duties of the charge—Say, ye tinsell'd train of courtiers, can you look upon his equal?

Bedfordshire.

Died.] January 31. At Cardington, the Rev. Rob. Willan, A.M. formerly fellow of Trinity college, Cambridge.

Essex.]—Chelmsford, Feb. 5th.—A meeting of the Society for Promoting Industry among the Poor, was held last week at Epping, when premiums, to the value of nearly 60l. were adjudged to several children for the best specimens of skill and industry, in spinning and knitting; and to several labourers, for having brought up four or more children to the age of 14 years, without having received any assistance from their respective parishes during that time. The gentlemen of the neighbouring districts have greatly exerted themselves to promote the important objects of this philanthropic institution, particularly John Congers, esq. of Copt Hall; and the happiest effects of cleanliness and cheerful industry, are visible in the towns and villages where the plan has been adopted.

Chelmsford, Feb. 19.—On Monday last, the ship Chelmer, Captain Stone, from Portugal, entered the basin of the canal at this place, being the first vessel that ever entered the lock of our navigation.

Married.] Mr. Chalk, editor of the Chelmsford Chronicle, to Miss Swinburn, of Colchester.

9. Mr. John Ambrose, of Mistley, to Miss Ann Cocker, of Nassau-street, Soho.

Died.]—January 25. Mr. M. Argent, of Witham.

Aged 90, the Rev. W. Salisbury, rector of Moreton.

29. At Horkestone, the Rev. Dr. Cock, for many years rector of Horkestone and Debden.

February 3. At Birdcage, Mrs Rainsford, wife R. R. esq.

Kent.] An address from this county, for an immediate Peace, was presented to the King, on Friday, Feb. 19, by Earl Stanhope and Filmer Honywood, esq. This Petition may be justly considered as expressive of the sentiments of the county, it being signed by so large a majority of the freeholders, fifteen thousand, three hundred, and thirty-nine. Another address was also presented, respectfully signed, from the town of Margate, of a similar tendency.

Maidstone; Feb. 23. At a late meeting of the justices at West Malling, a miller was clearly convicted of having mixed together the flour of peas and the flour of wheat, and sentenced to pay 5l. for the offence.

Married.] Feb. 4. At Tenterden, Mr V. Whitbread, to Miss Wood.

11. At Bromley, John Reade, esq. of Ipsden, in Oxfordshire, to Miss Scott, eldest daughter of Major Scott.

9. At Dover, Captain Robert Frederick, of the 54th regiment to Miss Ann Thompson.

15. Same place, Thomas Biggs, esq. store-keeper of the ordnance at that port, to Miss Bazeley, daughter of Admiral B.

Same day, William Nethercote Long. esq. of the 89th regiment, to Miss Evans.

5. At Lenham, --- Powel, esq. to Miss Harrison.

Died.] At Maidstone, Miss E. Shipley daughter of the late Dr. S. Bishop of St. Asaph.

At Sevenoaks, the Rev. T. Williams, chancellor of the church of Chichester, aged 94.

At Oxenheat, aged 87, Sir F. Geary, bart. admiral of the White, and a commander in chief of the grand fleet, during the late war.

February 3. At Rochester, Edward Morris, purser of the Union.

Suffolk.] In the dreadful storms in the latter end of January, considerable damage was done on the coast by the high tides, particularly at Worthing, where the sea made great encroachments.

The combination to take toll only in kind is kept up very generally throughout these parts. Where the toll is taken from the wheat, it amounts, during the present high prices, to three guineas; if from the flour, to 4l. per load—a gallon per bushel being the smallest quantity taken. There are other disadvantages also, which prevent the poor, &c. from bringing small quantities of grain to the ground.

Married.] February 4. Mr. W. Fuller, of Lowes, to Miss Chatfield.

10. Mr. J. Duke, near Arundel, to Miss Osborne.

Died.] At Chiddingly, the Rev. Tho. Baker, vicar of Chiddingly and Alceston.

January 25. At Burwash, in the 81st year of his age, Mr. Hepton. Unhappily he had for a long time before been severely afflicted with the stone in the bladder.

26. At Lewes, after a tedious illness, Mr. T. Cruttenden, one of the people called Quakers.

Hampshire.] Jan. 30. At Southampton, it blew so violent a tempest, and the tide rose to such a height, that the Stone Banks of the beach (a very agreeable promenade) were entirely washed away, and demolished. The marsh and other fields were so flooded with the water, that boats could sail over them. Considerable damage was also done among the shipping in the harbour.

Married.] Feb. 12. At Winchester, Mr. John Shenton, of that city, to Miss Karnot.

Mr. Idswell, of Winchester, to Miss Todd, of Andover.

Died.] Dr Hardy, of Basingstoke.

At Winchester, Mrs Lyford, wife of Mr. L. Surgeon.

At Portsmouth, Henry Gibbs, esq. late Surveyor-general of the Navy.

At Southampton, Mrs Guillaume, a widow lady.

Berkshire.

Married.] January 28th, at Eaton, the Rev. Caius Briggs, assistant of Eton School, to Miss Penelope Georgiana Bearblock.

Died.] January 31. The dowager lady Throckmorton, relict of the late Sir R. T. of Buckland.

At Abingdon, aged 101, Mrs Smith.

Mr John Deacon, of the Three King's Tavern, between Reading and Newbury.

January 13. In the 34th year of her age, Mrs Harris, wife of Mr. R. H. banker, of Reading.

Wiltshire.

Died.] At Swindon, Miss Goddard, aged 18, the eldest daughter of A. G. esq. M.P. for the county.

January 17. At Malmesbury, in the 72d year of his age, Capt. S. Spencer, of the Royal Navy.

25. In his 72d year, Mr W. Whitchurch, of Salisbury.

At Salisbury, Mr W. Redman, brazier.

Somershire.] Mr. Billingsley, a respectable agricultural authority, has declared entirely in favour of the proposed regulation of using weight in buying and selling corn, in lieu of measure. Mr. Billingsley is of opinion, that the standard should be as follows:—

Wheat	-	63	
Barley	52 or 53	{	lb. per bushel.
Oats	38 or 40		

Mr. B.'s opinion is of the more weight, as he declares it is that of the most intelligent agriculturists and corn-dealers

in Somersetshire, which Mr. B. has been at some pains to collect.

Bristol, Feb. 13th.—Several of our parishes have come to a resolution, on account of the high price of provisions, to have no more public feasting.

Married.] Feb. 4. At Bath, Mr. Thomas Spencer, of Derby, to Miss Chipper of Bath.

Feb. 3. At Bristol, Mr. T. Skone to Miss Day.

17. At Bath. Mr. J. Croom, to Miss A. Ball, of Cloford.

8. At Staplegrove, Captain Bordes, to Miss E. Codrington, of Bridgewater.

Same day, at Wells, Mr. Guest, Birmingham, to Miss Rao Wells.

9. W. B. Elven, esq. Queen's C. Oxford, to Miss Eagles, eldest daughter of T. Eagles, esq. Bristol.

11. At Taunton, Mr. S. Wilmen to Miss Cade, only daughter of S. Cade, esq. Wilton.

Same day, at Taunton, W. Fraundeis, esq. to Miss Brereton, of St. James's Place.

At Wellington. Mr. H. Pike, of Wellington, to Miss Shorthorn.

At Bristol, the Rev. Thomas Hickes, to Miss Hodgson.

10. Mr. Robert Chapman, of Whitby, to Miss Bovill, of Milford Lane, London.

Died.] January 29. At Taunton, aged 85, W. Spiller, esq. He served the office of mayor of that borough in the year 1773.

David Duncombe, esq. an eminent merchant, of Bristol.

Mr. J. Lean, merchant, of the same place.

At Wells, Mrs Doughty, of late years, mistress of a preparatory school for the younger offspring of the most respectable families in that city.

At Bristol, Mr. Landu, gardener: and Mrs Harding, wife of Mr. H. butcher.

At Axbridge, the Rev. T. Gould, a justice of the peace for Somersetshire, and exemplary in the virtues of humanity and charity.

Mrs Wilmot, relict of J. W. esq. of Walcot Parade, Bath.

Aged 71, Mr. G. Tovey, an eminent maltster, at Philips-Norton.

February 2. At Bath, C. Lockhart, esq.

5. At Totterdon, near Bristol, aged 84, Mr. J. Bush one of the people called Quakers.

At Cotteshouse, near Bristol, Cha. Fenwick Noel, esq.

At Bath, Mrs Hewlet, wife of Mr. H. architect.

8. At Bristol, Mr. Barton, for many years an officer of the Customs.

At Bristol, aged 66, Mrs Thrall, wife of Mr. T. who also died two days afterwards, aged 76.

12. H. Landford, esq. of the Crescent, Bath, a gentleman in whose character, benevolence formed a very prominent feature.

Mrs Highmore, Star and Garter, Bath.

At Bristol Hot Wells, Mr. Briggs Cary, youngest son of — C. esq. of Lynn.

At Taunton, Mr. T. Locke.

At

At his lodgings, in Bath, Mr. Holiday, a gentleman of Ireland.

16. At Yatton, in an advanced age, Mr. J. Inman, of Wrington.

Mr Latham Strickland, brush maker, son of Mr. J. S. carpenter, of Bristol.

Mrs Cornish, wife of Mr C. of the Bell Inn, Axminster.

Dorsetshire.] It is in contemplation to apply to Parliament for an act for a canal, that shall pass through the counties of Dorset and Somerset; to be called the Dorset and Somerset Canal.

The following fact, which appeared at the late Blandford Sessions, may tend to demonstrate the superior advantages accruing to a parish, or family, from the practice of grinding their own corn: Prior to this last year, the town gaoler had always sent the corn destined for the use of the prison to one of the public mills: in the course of last year, however, a hand-mill has been in use in the prison; and although the price of wheat in 1795 was almost double to that of 1794, and although the consumption of the prison during last year called for 70 loaves more than in 1794, there has been a saving of 11l. in the annual expences of the prison, in the article of bread.

A new county hall is to be built at Dorchester, on a plan much more elegant and commodious, than that of the old one.

A bill has been brought into Parliament, for making a navigable Canal; to begin at Pool in this county, and to communicate with the Kennet and Avon Canal at Widbrook, in the county of Wilts.

Marr'd.] Feb 16. Rear Admiral Spry, to Miss Thomas, sister of Samuel Thomas, of Tregols, in Cornwall.

Died.] At Everhot, Mr. G. Dibble, steward to the earl of Ilchester.

January 16. Aged 56, H. W. Portman, esq. of Bryantone Place. His large estates in the West of England, and in the county of Middlesex, comprising the ground rents of Portman-square, and several streets adjoining, devolve on his second son, H. Berkely Portman, esq. M.P. for the city of Wells.

Mr. Benj. Whitehead, many years a maltster in Sherborne.

Devonshire.] In Exeter market, the price of butter fell lately 3d. in the pound in one day, in consequence of a general resolution of the inhabitants to refuse purchasing it on exorbitant terms. Early in the day, the dairy-women had raised the price to 16d. the pound.

Plymouth, Jan. 24.—Yesterday morning, early, the wind began to blow with incredible fury, and soon increased to a

hurricane. As the tide flowed in, the sea became more agitated, and, from three P.M. till five, presented a scene highly terrific, grand, and picturesque, to spectators from the pier, the citadel, and other points of land. The waves made palpable breakers over the hill rocks to the glacis of the citadel, foaming dreadfully, and gullying up the ground in their progress. A sentry-box was blown away to the distance of 30 yards. though loaded with 2cwt.: the Cobler's buoy, moored on a ledge of rocks off Mount Batten, was forced away from its moorings, and driven under Fisher's Nose; the Goed Trowe, a Dutch ship, drifted, and forced in the wall of a timber yard: this was all the damage done in a hurricane which has not been exceeded during a century past.

Monday the 15th, a battle was fought at Brislington, between two *brutes*, in the shape of men, which lasted near an hour and a half, in which they were both so terribly bruised, that one of them died the next day, and the other remains dangerously ill.

Died.] In St. Sidwell's, Exeter, Mrs Bennett, for many years mistress of a respectable boarding school adjoining to the cathedral. Her abilities and affectionate attention to the young ladies entrusted to her care, were extraordinary, and such as to render her decease greatly lamented by her numerous friends.

At Biddiford, Mrs Mary Tonkin, for upwards of 40 years a shopkeeper in that town, with an uniform character for fairness and integrity in her dealings.

At Exeter, R. S. Vidal, esq. one the guardians for the poor of that city; of a benevolent disposition, a sincere Christian, and exemplary in all the duties of private life.

January 3. At Exeter, suddenly, Mrs Cooke, wife of Mr J. C. Sadler.

G. E. H. Hayward, esq. a lieutenant in the East Devon militia.

At Plymouth, after a short illness, Miss M. Herbert, daughter of G. H. esq.; a young lady of a very amiable character.

The Rev. H. Holdsworth, rector of North Huish, curate of Dartmouth, and one of the aldermen there.

At Exeter, aged 20, Miss Westlake, daughter of Mr Alderman W.

At Exeter, Mr. J. Felt, one of the sergeants at mace.

Same place, Mr. Ford, an eminent feedsmen.

17. At Dartmouth, Mr. John Tange, universally lamented.

22. Miss Ham, aged 22, of Totness.

Cornwall.

Died.] At Liskeard, of a palsey, after a lingering decay, the Rev. T. Morgan, late of Exeter.

At Maker, the Rev. Rich. Elliot, A.M. vicar of Maker and St. Teath.

South

[Feb:

South Wales.] During the tremendous storm, on the 26th of January, the steeple of Narbeth church, in Pembrokeshire, received a very violent shock of the electric fluid, which completely demolished the roof of the belfrey, shivered one of the bells to atoms, threw down part of the battlements, much cracked the steeple to a considerable depth downwards, forced its way into the body of the church, and, spreading itself in various directions, annihilated several pews in the chancel, injured the pulpit, completely destroyed a marble monument, and broke every pane of glass in the windows of the church. A newly erected hovel, near the church-yard, was also set on fire by it. The clerk, then in the church-porch, together with some boys, were struck down, and two of the latter scorched.

Married.] At Brecon, Mr. W. Davies, surgeon, of that town, to Miss Sarah Thomas. At Tregunon, Mr. John Pugh, to Miss Jane Williams.

At Denio, in Caernarvonshire, the Rev. John Roberts, archdeacon of Merioneth, to Mrs Lewis, of Pwllheli.

Died.] Mr. Evans of the Unicorn inn, Welshpool; he was in apparent good health till the instant he expired.

Harry Gibbs, Esq. surveyor-general of the customs in North and South Wales.

Sheriffs of Wales.

Caermarthen, J. Morton, of Langhorn, esq.
Pembroke, N. Philips, of Slebetch, esq.
Cardigan, E. W. Jones, of Llanina, esq.
Glamorgan, H. Hurst, of Gabalva, esq.
Brecon, P. C. Crespigny, of Tallyllyr, esq.
Radnorshire, J. Pritchard, of Dolvyelin, esq.
Merioneth, Sir E. P. Lloyd, of Park, bart.
Anglesea, J. M. Conway, of Cefnlog, esq.
Caernarvor, J. W. Lenthal, of Mainan, esq.
Montgomery, J. Dickin, of Welch Pool, esq.
Denbighshire, J. Hughes, of Horsely Hall, esq.
Flint, Sir E. P. Lloyd, of Pengwern Place, bart.

Scotland.] A new process for making flour from potatoes has been discovered lately at Paisley. According to repeated experiments, it is an excellent substitute for wheaten, or buck-wheat flour, in the process of dressing linen and cotton webs, with a less quantity, answering the purpose better. It affords a finer skin to the cloth, and may be used in seasons of the greatest drought or frost. It will continue for years in a sound state, and may be manufactured at half the price of wheaten flour.

The late storms have done considerable damage in different parts of Scotland. At Greenock and Port-Glasgow, the loss is computed to exceed 40,000l. The

principal articles injured, are sugar and tobacco. At Ayr, Dumfries, and Aberdeen, great losses have been sustained.

From some proceedings of the Highland Society, lately published in the Scotch papers, it appears, that the funds of that patriotic society are in a flourishing state. At a general meeting of the society held lately in Edinburgh, 17 noblemen, or respectable gentlemen, were elected additional members of their society. The object of the institution is not only to throw light on the early periods of Scottish history, and particularly of that of the Highlands; but also to afford the most liberal encouragement towards promoting agricultural improvements, ameliorating the breeds of black cattle and sheep, producing green crops, and draining or watering pasture lands. A larger sum was voted for these truly patriotic purposes last year than was ever before. At the late general meeting, the duke of Argyll was re-elected president, and the Marquis of Tweedale was vice-president. A committee of 30 ordinary directors, consisting of gentlemen of the first respectability, constantly resides in Edinburgh, for the purpose of superintending the affairs of the society.

Edinburgh, Feb. 5. Upwards of 300 vessels, laden with herrings, each computed, on an average, to have 400 barrels on board, have already passed the canal; an indication of the growing importance of the herring fishery on this coast.

Married.] Feb. 12. At Leith, Mr. Eben Anderson, to Miss Shottred.

The Rev. J. Scott, of Greenock, to Miss S. Fisher, of Dychmont.

Feb. 9. At Petershill, Mr. A. Fenlds, of Athurby, to Miss C. Campbell, of Greenhead.

Feb. 1. At Coilsfield, Major R. D. M'Queen, of Braxfield, to Miss L. Montgomery.

12. At Dumfries, A. Robson, esq. of Castlehill, to Miss A. Douglas, of Ridingwood.

Died.] In Edinburgh, Colin Drummond, M.D.

John Johnstone, esq. the last surviving brother of Sir Wm. J. bart. In the early part of his life he resided in the East Indies, and distinguished himself as one of the council in Bengal.

At Edinburgh, Frances Viscountess Kenmore.

At Craighead, Perthshire, aged 89, Mr Michael Stirling, formerly a farmer in that Parish; where, in 1758, he invented a threshing mill, the first in Scotland, and which, from that year to the present time, has threshed annually, the whole quantity of corn produced on extensive arable farm.

Ireland.

Ireland. The Pigeon-house, at the entrance of Dublin harbour, was struck with lightning on the night of January the 20th, and completely demolished.

Lately, in Dublin, John Frayne, a bankrupt, under the statute for not making a full disclosure of his effects, and secreting part of the same, to the value of 106l. 1s. 6d. with an intent to defraud his creditors, was found guilty, and received sentence of death.

The iron-works, near Carrick-on-Shannon, in the variety and excellency of the articles manufactured, bid fair to rival the celebrated establishment at Carron, Scotland, or any other in the foundry line, within the British dominions.

The Royal Irish Academy have offered 50l. sterling to the writer of the best essay on the following subject: "To what manufactures are the national interests of Ireland best suited, and what are the best modes of improving such manufactures?" Also a gold medal to the writer of the best essay on "The variations of English Prose Composition, from the Revolution to the present time;" and another gold medal for the best essay on "The authenticity and value of Irish manuscript histories, of ages prior to that of Henry II."

A fleet of men of war and transports, sailed from the Cove of Cork on the 9th inst. They amounted to ninety sail, and were destined for the West Indies. —The same malignant fortune which so long hovered round, and at length defeated, the expedition under Admiral Christian, pursued and overtook this fleet also. It had scarcely been at sea, when a violent gale arose, dispersed the vessels, and, after a struggle of three days, compelled them to return for shelter, to whatever harbours they were severally enabled to reach.

In the Irish House of Commons, on Thursday, the 18th ult. Mr. Curran, after a short introduction, moved, that a committee be appointed to enquire into the state of the poor, and the price of labour in that kingdom. The Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed the motion, as tending to encourage the system of anarchy so generally prevalent, and therefore moved the question of adjournment, which, after a debate of some length, was carried 127 to 16.

A general association is forming, as well of Catholics as Protestants, with a view to put a stop at once to the growing spirit of insurrection and depredation.

DUBLIN. Feb. 13. Thursday night, a horrid murder was committed at Luttrellstown: two brothers of the name of McCormick, who were bound to give evidence against a principal defender, had been lodged by lord Carhampton in a mill-house, at the corner of his lordship's domain, in order to prevent them from being seduced from giving their testimony. At the hour of midnight, twenty men, armed and habited in brown clothes, proceeded to the room in which these unfortunate brothers lay, the youngest of whom (a lad about fourteen years old) they shot through the heart, and the elder, through different parts of his body. The unhappy victims died before morning.

The privy council of Ireland have offered rewards of 200l. and 100l. for the discovery of the murderers of Patrick and John Cormick, at Luttrellstown, and of James Hyland and his wife, at Killeale.

Married.] At Waterford, the Rev. Mr Wallis, to Miss Moore, daughter of Mr Alderman Moore.

Lately at Dublin, T. B. D. Sewell, esq. to Miss Beresford, daughter to the Archbishop of Tuam.

Feb. 15. At Dublin, W. A. Minchin, esq. of London, to Miss M. Ferrar, of Dublin.

Jos. Swan, of Knocklow, esq. to Miss Eustace, of Castlemore.

James Fitzmaurice, of Dublin, esq. to Miss Gole, of Ashfield.

Feb. 6. Rev. Mr Buckley, of Bruff, aged 89, to the widow Roche, aged 64, being his fifth wife.

G. Beamish, esq. of Lake Mount, to Miss Evanson.

Thomas Barry, of Leighbrook, esq. to Miss Evans, of Dublin.

Died.] At Kilkenny, the Hon. Robert Fitzmaurice Deane, eldest son of Lord Muskerry.

12. At Dublin, in an advanced age, Charles Coote, D.D. Dean of Kilfenold, and chanter of Christ-church, Dublin; eminently distinguished in early life, for taste, acumen, and classical learning: and beloved and revered in riper years for the exercise of generosity, hospitality, and every social virtue. He was an ardent lover of his country, having, in a single instance, furnished a loan of £10,000 (to Mr. Bradshaw) in order to introduce the cotton manufactory into the Queen's county, where he himself resided. He also lent out large sums to the towns of Montrath and Maryborough, free of interest, for the benefit of poor tradesmen. His public and private charities were numerous. In fine, the death of this really worthy man has been,

"A gentle wafting to immortal life."

Monthly Report for February.

[This Article will be regularly made up from an *actual Correspondence*, established in about twenty Districts, throughout Great Britain. The Failure of some of our Correspondents this Month has, however, prevented our perfecting this Plan, agreeably to our first Intention. In future Numbers, we trust we shall be enabled to do Justice to so important a Subject.]

THE reports this month from the several districts, contain the agreeable information, that far more wheat has been sown this year than usual, and that the farmers are already busily engaged in sowing their spring corn. This circumstance, by the consumption of seed, cannot but tend for the present to occasion a trifling advance of grain in general, though it must tend eventually to a reduction. No opinion of the next year's crop can as yet be formed from its present full and promising appearance, as, from the uncommon mildness of the season, and the late general rains, the crops of wheat promise equally well in good and bad soils, and whether properly or improperly cultivated.

In consequence of the late mild weather, the land is now in excellent order for breaking up the wheat stubble, and receiving the crops of barley and oats. In the western districts, this will commence in about a fortnight.

Grasses, and every kind of herbage, are in the most luxuriant and forward state. In the grazing counties, there is a profusion of turnip-tops, and other winter greens: this cannot fail in a short time to bring down the price of mutton considerably, as the grass mutton will speedily overtake the turnip supply at Smithfield market. The late dry weather has been favourable to the improvement of sheep; in the month of January, the continuance of rainy and stormy weather was injurious, and occasioned them to look thin, especially on the sea coast.

Milch cows and fat cattle were never so scarce and dear, in the memory of

experienced graziers, as at present; and they are likely to remain so for some time. The price of stores will of course be on the advance. Useful horses, on account of the continued demand for the army, are every where rising in price. Although keep of all sorts is so high, yet store pigs were never known to fetch better prices.

The market for the last month has been very heavy for hops; bags have been from 50 to 96s. and pockets have sold from 70s. to 5 guineas the cwt.

Cheese still keeps up an extravagant price; it fetches in the southern counties, from 49 to 53s. for prime dairies.

Wheat has experienced a singular fluctuation during the last month, as may be observed in the following statement of average market prices in six counties, in corresponding weeks of January and February.

Lincoln	Jan.	97.	Feb.	95.
Northampton	Jan.	93.	Feb.	89.
Leicester	Jan.	95.	Feb.	106.
Wilts	Jan.	97.	Feb.	96.
Durham	Jan.	88.	Feb.	106.
Mark-lane	Jan.	96.	Feb.	103.

In Mark-lane, Leicester, and Durham, it appears to have risen considerably; whereas in the markets of Lincoln, Northampton, and Wiltshire, there has been a moderate reduction. Perhaps this variation in the ebb and flow, goes a good way to prove the justice of the late resolutions of the Gloucester bakers, "that the advance of price is in a great part occasioned by speculation." The importation has lately been very considerable, especially in the port of Liverpool; but, in a time of general war, little permanent effect can be looked for from foreign supplies.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The Conductors of the *MONTHLY MAGAZINE*, having proceeded thus far in the Plan and Execution of their work, submit themselves and their Undertaking, with the utmost deference, to the candid Discernment of a liberal and enlightened Public. They are fully aware of the Magnitude of the Attempt they are engaged in; conscious that on their spirited exertions, and on those of their Correspondents, in future, must depend the ultimate Establishment of a Work adequate to the Expectations, the Taste, and Penetration of the Age.

Some Parts of their Plan being entirely Original, must, of course, be proportionately liable to Errors and Anomalies. Such *may, possibly, have crept into some of the preceding Pages* —for these they do not judge themselves to be responsible, from any deficiency of Attention or Sedulity; but are obliged to plead as their Excuse, the extensive and complicated Nature of the Objects treated of.

To their CORRESPONDENTS they feel that they have many Thanks to tender; the Work itself obviously evinces the Value of the Obligations conferred. They have also, at the same Time, to apologize for the Omission of several much-esteemed Favours, which are postponed unavoidably for Want of Room. It is earnestly requested, that Communications may be transmitted as early in the ensuing Month as possible.